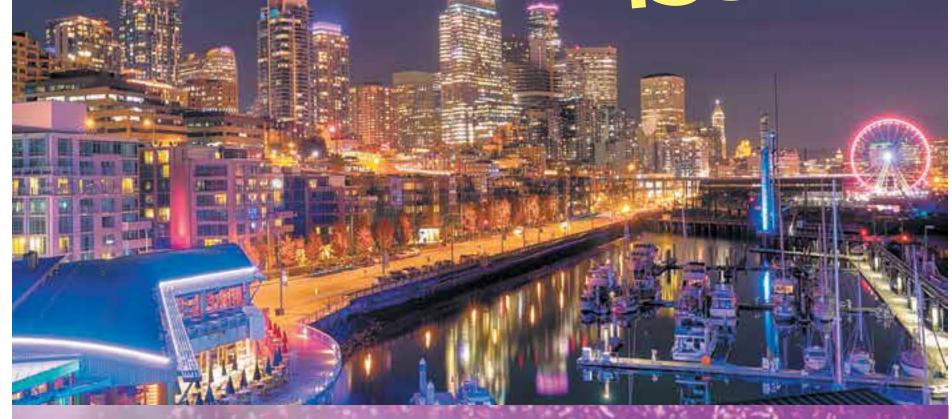


## NIGHTLIFE ISSUE



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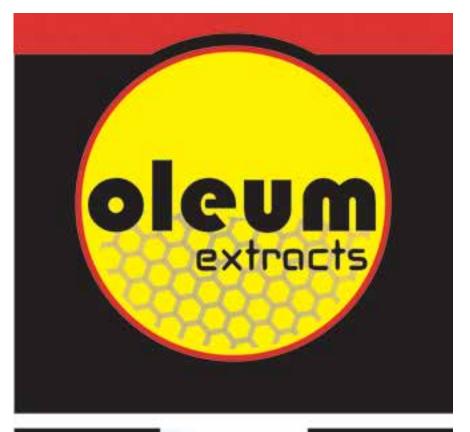
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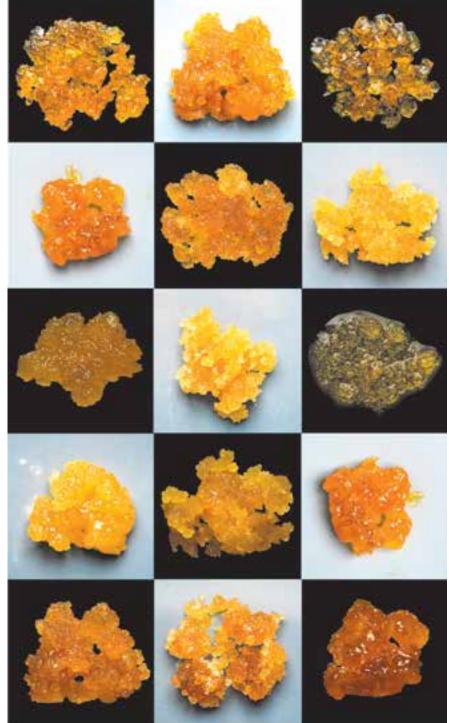


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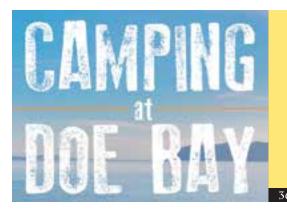






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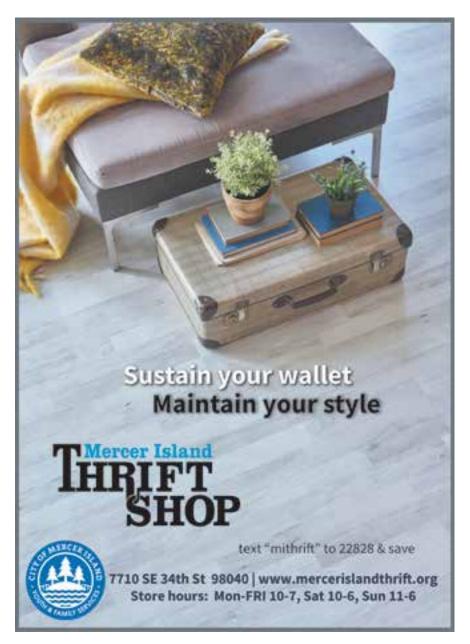
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## the Stranger

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Plus: Who gives a fuck about an Oxford Kamala?

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#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**



For nearly 15 years, *The Stranger*—against logic and aesthetics—has printed the word representing the musical genre distinguished by rapping, DJing, breakdancing, and graffiti as "hiphop." Why, many a music staffer and freelance writer wondered. Because it was former My Philosophy columnist and esteemed hip-hop commentator Larry Mizell Jr.'s preference. With all due respect to that great critic, "hiphop" looks funny-and not in a good way. Matter of fact, one of our staffers can't help pronouncing it in his head as "hiffop." [Record-scratch sound.] But, finally, in May 2019, The Stranger's copy chief, Gillian Anderson, under gentle pressure from newest and youngest staff writer Jasmyne Keimig, and with an assist from Merriam-Webster and the New York Times, decided that in a world rife with chaos, we needed to unite on at least one important issue: "hip-hop" deserves a goddamn hyphen. Our long, unhyphenated nightmare is over. Boo-ya!

#### Who Gives a Fuck About an Oxford Kamala?

#### BY SENATOR HARRIS

think it's important that we separate the truth from what others think is the truth, and focus on fact and not on fiction. We need to hold everybody accountable, because this is an issue that touches each and every one of us. We cannot go backward, and we cannot tolerate a perspective that goes backward. We need to put in place and require a system that focuses on greater clarity and precision, and that is why I believe and why I have said that it is important to use a so-called Oxford comma



or serial comma. That being said, we need to acknowledge and recognize that we are looking at a system where not everyone uses or utilizes Oxford commas or serial commas. Various publications that constitute and make up our free press do not use commas in the same way for the same reasons. So this is something that I believe we need to look at and have a conversation about. There is vital and important work to be done. Even though we do not know yet how to resolve this or fix it, we will be vigilant and we will fight each and every day. Clarity on this question is something that the American people and every citizen of this country is entitled to receive and to have. So when you ask: Who gives a fuck about an Oxford Kamala? I do, I do.

#### I. ANONYMOUS



You came in with dietary restrictions and condescension, and I patiently walked you through the menu and what you could eat. Being a waiter, a grad student, and over the age of 5, I know that cheese is dairy, but you insisted on pointing it out incessantly. After spending quite some time enjoying your meal, you asked if we had "hortata." I said we didn't have "horchata." You said, "No, horTata," explaining that it is a small latte (it isn't, it's nothing). Then you asked for a soy latte instead. I told you we have drip coffee (being a Mexican restaurant, this isn't outlandish). Rather than complaining directly or looking me in the eye, you tipped 10 percent and added a note to your bill that you'd taken \$3 off the tip to pay for the drip coffee you ended up ordering. An online search finds you identify as a "liberal" -but not paying working-class people for their services is nothing more than a classic Trump move. I hope they serve soy lattes in hell. ANONYMOUS

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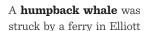
Nonprofit group Historic Seattle made an offer last month to  $\boldsymbol{buy}$  the  $\boldsymbol{Showbox}$  from its owner, Roger Forbes, and save it from its planned destruction. Forbes has said in court documents that a developer was set to give him \$41 million in cash for the building. Historic Seattle didn't put a number on their offer, nor have they said how they would get those millions, but a representative from the nonprofit, when contacted by The Stranger. assured us that they're good for it.

Speaking of the Showbox, it was packed on May 23 when the Specials proved why they're one of the legends of ska's second wave with a performance that became progressively more energized and riveting as it went. However, the Specials didn't play their best song, the eternally haunting "  ${\bf Ghost}$ 

**Town**." One *Stranger* staffer was willing to bet anybody \$100 that they'd close the show with it, but no. Weird.

As one of Seattle's coolest and most vinylfriendly bars, **Revolver** celebrated its fifth anniversary in early May by having DJs spin records all day. At some point in the night, a

youngish white guy who looked like he could be the bassist of an emo rock band began playing some great, deep dub cuts. Talk about a shocker! Lesson: You can't judge a disc jockey by their haircut or tattoos.



Bay on May 28. The Wenatchee was appar-

 $ently\,chugging\,along\,its\,Seattle\,to\,Bainbridge$ route when it hit the whale during the 8:15 p.m. sailing. Ferry riders reported seeing the whale, with one witness saying she saw the poor thing bleeding from a fatal-looking wound. We don't definitively know whether the whale survived its collision with the steel ship, but we're realists. :(

A PAC called Washington Independents, dedicated to electing centrist politicians, called it quits after 18 months. The group funded several independent candidates during the 2018 election cycle, all of whom lost, "usually badly," admitted cofounder Chris Vance, former chair of the Washington State Republican Party. Vance still

thinks the country needs a centrist party, but he thinks Joe Biden will do. "If the Democrats are going to be a centrist party, then maybe we don't need another one.'

In response to a request for delay from the Seattle Office for Civil Rights, city council member **Lisa Herbold** 

pulled legislation that would make it easier for the city attorney's office to charge people with hate crimes. Though hate crimes have risen 400 percent in Seattle since 2012, progressive groups argue that affording the city attorney more power will "exacerbate existing disparities of incarceration."

In a brazen example of the revolving door

between legislators and lobbyists, Guy Palumbo resigned a full year before the end of his first term as a state senator. After helping to squash a modest capital-gains proposal and trying to funnel levy dollars to charter schools, the corporate Democrat will now shill for Amazon

#### A ferry struck a humpback whale in Elliott Bay.

Disgraced former movie producer Harvey Weinstein and his former film studio board have allegedly reached a tentative agreement with the women who have accused him of sexual misconduct. The proposed deal is for **\$44 million**, which won't come from the sick fuck himself but from insurance policies. Of that, \$30 million will go to the accusers, studio creditors, and former employees, the rest to legal fees. Weinstein is still under criminal investigation in New York for a pending case involving two accusers.  $\blacksquare$ 



The saga continues.









REBUKE









#### **Booze with a View**

#### I went to three rooftop bars on a Wednesday night and didn't throw up. BY NATHALIE GRAHAM

eople in the United States have been knocking back drinks on top of buildings since at least the 1880s. when Rudolph Aronson, inspired by Parisian gardens but lacking space in New York City, built a rooftop garden bar on top of the Casino Theater on Broadway. Plants, booze, a summer breeze, performances-it was a hit.

"Manhattan was land-poor but roof-rich, and rooftop complexes, many modeled after German beer gardens, bloomed from the Battery to the Bronx" according to Imbibe magazine. "Society columnists began referring to a 'roof garden season.' The new Madison Square Garden, then under construction. added its own elaborate rooftop garden, and when it opened, it was the grandest ever seen."

A similar thing is happening on the tops of many of the new buildings in Seattle-although I've yet to see a proper rooftop bar  ${\it garden}.$  I'm probably going to need to make friends with new-apartment rooftop access for that. Mostly what's available to the general public in Seattle is found in the form of the premium hotel bar.

 $I\,surprised\,myself\,when\,I\,selected\,one\,of$ these as the destination for my 23rd birthday celebration in March. Mountaineering Club is a new bar smack-dab in the middle



 $The \ Nest \ (above) \ is \ 13 \ stories \ high. \ MBar \ (left) \ is \ 14 \ stories \ high.$ 



the swanky Graduate Hotel. It offers sweeping views of Lake Washington and Lake Union and everything beyond them, and a bird's-eye view of the U-District. You can spy on the cars crawling across the I-5 bridge like some kind of

of the University District, on the 16th floor of

But I didn't love the drinks. They were fine. Kind of weird. There was one with nettles (literally called We Put Nettles in This) that sort

omnipotent deity.

MBar was an experience. It has a nearly unimpeded, 360-degree view.

of tasted like soap. It cost \$13. As for it being my birthday hangout, though, I liked the Mountaineering Club for how jarring it felt to be there, all fancy and decadent, one block from the squalor and grit of the Ave.

When an editor at The Stranger found out that's how I spent my birthday, he gave me an expense limit of \$125 and told me to hit as many other rooftop bars in one night as I could for this story. I went with my boyfriend, Harry, on a Wednesday night after work. We met in front of his tech company's office. He was annoyed with me because  ${\rm I}$ was two hours late. That seemed valid. We walked over to our first destination in stony silence.

Frolik sits on the Motif Hotel's fifth floor. It's

not quite the rooftop I was hoping for—it's not very high and it's surrounded by other buildings. I'd heard about it from my friend whose company has made it their go-to happy hour spot.

Harry and I sat down on the broad patio. It was a perfect day. The sun refracted off the panes on an all-glass building under construction that towered over us. Top 40 hits hummed  $\,$ under the din of conversation. I searched the patio, looking for something to talk about to melt the tension. Nothing came to mind. Harry sipped his Motif Mule (\$12), and I sucked down my Mercer Island Iced Tea (\$16).

"How's your drink?" I asked.

He shrugged, "It's a \$12 Moscow Mule." We sat in silence some more

Then we noticed an all-white ping-pong table and decided to play. There was a gumball dispenser full of white ping-pong balls that cost 25 cents apiece. The glare of the white ball on the white table made the game that much harder.  $\boldsymbol{I}$ also hit the ball off the roof once. We rushed to the edge to watch it float down to the sidewalk below. That must happen all the time.

Harry won. We took tequila shots. We played again. It was harder this time. Harry won again. We'd had our fill. On to the next spot. We traipsed through downtown, a little more relaxed in our buzz, in the golden light bathing Third Avenue.

The Nest is one of those bars I'd seen only on social media. On the 13th floor of the Thompson Hotel overlooking Pike Place Market and Elliott Bay, the Nest is pure Instagram fodder. A burly security guard checked our IDs on the ground

level and joked with us as he led us to the

He told us about how the Nest is still open during the winter. Its outdoor portion is covered three weeks a month, but it has to remain uncovered for at least one week, because it obstructs other views. I now have a goal to go to the Nest in the pouring rain.

The Nest's view is dazzling. There were tons of people. Two bartenders in light pink polos and sunglasses were shaking drinks like they were tending bar poolside at a Hawaiian resort. I got the Pea Diddy (\$16), a sickly sweet purple drink. Harry got a Good Fellas (\$16), a brown liquor drink for the manliest of men.

We found a section of balcony that we could lean on and sipped our drinks. There were crowded tables to our backs. One man squeezed past us carrying a large gold swan filled with alcohol. Another man was telling his date all about his BMW Series 7.

We passed the time watching a party on another rooftop below us. Two people. a younger man with red hair like Harry's and an older woman, were grooving and grinding to music we couldn't hear. Gulls flew overhead and, before we knew it, our drinks were empty. Harry rushed to the bar for more tequila shots.

"The bartender said he didn't have well tequila," Harry said, laughing, when he  $returned, cradling \, two \, tumblers \, of \, pricey$ Jose Cuervo, Bottoms up.

We guzzled some water and hurried to our next spot, MBar in South Lake Union. The sun was setting quickly, and we'd heard MBar is a fantastic place to experience a sunset. However, we were also hungry, and as we walked, McDonald's golden arches called to us—a safe haven from \$16 specialty cocktails. Harry got a McChicken (\$1.29). I got a cheeseburger (\$1) and a Sausage McMuffin (\$1.19). He  $chastised\,me\,for\,not\,picking\,off\,the\,Extra$ 

Mbar was an experience. It was the only rooftop bar we visited that night that wasn't sardined in by other buildings. It's on the 14th floor of a building on Fairview Avenue North, and it has a nearly unimpeded, 360-degree view of Seattle, including Lake Union, Queen Anne, the Space Needle, the skyline, and Capitol Hill. To top it off, we had made it right as the sun was dipping below the mountains, and the sky was the same color as the drink I ordered, a rosy thing called a Porch Swing (\$15). Harry ordered whiskey on the rocks.

By now, we were drunk and giddy. Harry and I were the grubbiest people there in our jeans and T-shirts. But MBar is fan- $\operatorname{cy}$  without being pretentious. The food at the next table looked delicious, but not as cost-effective as our McDonald's binge We toasted ourselves for that economic loophole. The temperature dropped with the sun, and once we were only sipping melted ice, we decided to call it a night.

"You know, that was pretty fun," I slurred, more alcohol coursing through my bloodstream than was responsible for a Wednesday night.

"Yeah," Harry said. "Especially when I kicked your ass in ping-pong."

Though I obviously require a rematch, I'll be doing it at Teddy's Tavern in Roosevelt.  $\blacksquare$ 

#### Does Seattle Need a Night Mayor?

Actually, we kind of already have one. Meet Scott Plusquellec.

BY GREGORY SCRUGGS

ompared to, say, building another Amazon tower, the City of Seattle is not known for making it easy to open a spot for a DJ to lay down a late-night set of scintillating '90s house while you throw back a tallboy of Rainier. The city has many well-enforced rules about amplified sound, building use, alcohol sales, operating hours, and the other minutiae of nightlife businesses.

But plenty of other growing cities around the world have decided that, in fact, what happens after city hall closes up for the evening is no less important than what happens during daytime business hours.

Enter the night mayor. In 2012, Amsterdam kicked off a global trend by designating a *nachtburgemeester*, which translates from the Dutch as "night mayor." Despite the moniker, the club promoter Amsterdam picked was not a city employee but rather head of the outside voice of the nightlife industry with a direct conduit to city hall-not unlike the Downtown Seattle Association's role on behalf of downtown business owners.

Amsterdam's night mayor successfully deployed nighttime social workers to steer

#### His bet is on Sodo and White Center as emerging nightlife hubs.

boisterous patrons back indoors in thumping nightlife neighborhoods before angry neighbors could file noise complaints. He also convinced city hall to issue the first 24hour licenses for nightclub operators.

The night-mayor concept took off, spreading to London, New York, Paris, Washington, DC, San Francisco, and even Iowa City. Most of them work inside city government and have backgrounds as bar owners. D.Js. per $forming \, artists, or \, other \, denizens \, of \, the \, night.$ 

So as Seattle's storied nightlife grapples with our constant growing pains, do we need a night mayor to stand up for Seattleites who relish the 5 to 9 more than the 9 to 5? The good news is that we already have someone.

Scott Plusquellec is the city's nightlife business services advocate. It's a wonky title similar to many of his peers across the world, who often shy away from that powerful word "mayor" in their official job titles. But you can call Plusquellec our "night czar."

At the start of a recent workweek at the Seattle Municipal Tower, Plusquellec was dressed in Monday casual-blue jeans and a teal polo shirt—and fresh off a Saturday night show at Fremont Abbey to see Flock of Dimes. He told me he was previously an actor, which "gave me the flavor of what it's like to make your living after 6 p.m. and what it's like to be starting your day when others are wrapping theirs up."



"Cities are waking up to the idea that nightlife isn't a nuisance to be gotten rid of, but an economic driver to be supported." Scott Plusquellec says.

Plusquellec brings that experience to bear on his now two-year-old role, which comes after five years as the city's lobbyist in Olympia. "Cities are waking up to the idea that nightlife isn't a nuisance to be gotten rid of, but an economic driver to be supported," he said.

He insists that the era of the state tax on dance floors is behind us, and that Seattle has a pro-nightlife view that's enshrined in the city's Nightlife Establishment Handbook.

"Our first step is not to close something down; our first step is to figure out how to keep something open," he said. Such was the case with Vue, a Belltown club-heavy on bottle service and scantily clad servers—that opened last fall. Vue owner Chuck Wang had been wrongly informed that he did not need a change of use permit for his building. Once Wang received the unfortunate news, Plusquellec said that he walked him through an expedited permitting process to remedy the error. (Wang did not return a request for comment.)

Plusquellec also lent a hand to Beacon Hill establishment Clock-Out Lounge, due to confusion over zoning for an old building with records still on microfiche. Owner Denise Burnside downplayed the issue—"just a little bump Scott helped us work through"-but sang our night czar's praises. "Scott is fantastic-really responsive and helpful," she said.

Elsewhere. Plusquellec has organized active-shooter, sexual-harassment, and naloxone anti-overdose trainings. He is working with SDOT on a management strategy for the weekly Capitol Hill ride-hail flood, which sees 20.000 to 30.000 weekend visitors. His appeal to the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board for a later last call was met with "not interested at this time," which Plusquellec's lobbyist instincts see as an open door for a future conversation.

Most excitingly, he is spearheading an "agent of change" policy that he hopes the city council will take up next year. Agent of change is simple: The business or person responsible for a change is responsible for managing the impact. So if a developer builds condos next to an existing nightclub (ahem, Kremwerk), the developer must soundproof the units rather than the nightclub having to turn down the volume Such a safeguard could be crucial in the midst of our building boom, the architects of which Plusquellec views as insufficiently creative.

Ultimately, he argued, we have to make room for nightlife or risk fighting more arduous battles like the ongoing Save the Showbox saga. "Multiple other venues are tenuous and could very easily be the next Showbox," he said.

Jerry Everard, a local nightlife impresario, is sour on the status quo for legacy nightlife businesses. He recently bought a historical landmark building in Belltown to relocate atrisk pinball bar Shorty's and pizzeria Rocco's.

 $\hbox{``One would think there would be all kinds of }$ support for this at city hall." Everard told me. "Instead, they made the most onerous judgment calls regarding code applications and made me sit at the back of the permit line behind big Amazon towers for a year and a half."

Plusquellec is more sanguine. He fancies himself a Seattle nocturnal flaneur who strolls different neighborhoods to keep tabs on the nighttime vibe and occasionally conducts ride-alongs with police and code-compliance officers. His bet is on Sodo and White Center as emerging nightlife hubs. White Center, he noted, had a trendy ax-throwing lounge even before Capitol Hill.

"It used to be the case that if you had very specific tastes, you could be hard-pressed to find what you wanted—now we're getting to a point where there is something for everyone in the city," he said. "This is what excites me about Seattle and the growth we are going through."  $\blacksquare$ 

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Korochka Tavern owners Lisa Malinovskaya (left) and Kendall Murphy. Malinovskaya was born in Moscow.

#### No Collusion

Just Russian-American fusion in a cocktail lounge in Lake City.

BY MEG VAN HUYGEN

've been finding myself in Lake City lately. As gentrification oozes into Loyal Heights, my sleepy, old-person neighborhood—which now has a restaurant serving \$15 pho-I'm searching for bluecollar crust whenever I go barhopping. Once Crown Hill became lousy with condos, I fled to Greenwood, then Northgate.

 $Now \,Ijusthead\, straight \,to\, scruffy\, old \,Lake$  $City \, Way, with \, its \, pawnshops \, and \, strip \, joints.$ It's a comfort to know that, when the swank Bellevue stank emanating from Market Street grosses you out, there's always Lake City. Old Ballard's country cousin who still likes to huff cans of Dust-Off and blow shit up.

So it worried me to hear that Lake City has a cocktail bar. Yeah, Brother Barrel and other spots *have* cocktails, but how are you

#### "Russians don't do mixers," they admit, laughing.

gonna tell me there's a twinkling little lounge a few doors from the crunchy old Back Door Pub, up the road from the Shanty? Sounds... suspicious.

Then I accidentally loved it.

Korochka Tavern does Russian bites-primarily dumplings and pickled things—along with American-style cocktails that nod toward Eastern Europe. Co-owners Kendall Murphy, who grew up here, and Moscow-born Lisa Malinovskaya are besties who opened Korochka in 2016.

"They don't really have cocktail culture in Moscow," Malinovskaya laughed.

"Yeah. Russians don't do mixers. This drink is just like champagne with vodka in it," added Murphy, as she poured a luminous red KGBeet, composed of beet-infused vodka, Cynar, and prosecco (and no mixer, ahem).

Malinovskaya recalls tapping birch trees and drinking the thin sap as a kid-and a recent special, the Birch Sapling, featured birch-flavored liqueur, vodka, lemon, and tonic. The delicate Trans-Siberian has gin. Aperol, citrus, and a trace of orange blossom water, the last of which floats above the others, evoking the subtropical Black Sea coast. Another cocktail special included the astringent juice of the sea buckthorn, a berry found in recipes throughout northwestern Russia and the Baltics. They also have kvass and Russian beers and vodkas.

The pelmeni are the menu's star attraction: garlicky pork dumplings with fresh dill and a blat of sour cream. The potato/onion vareniki are similar. Bottles of white vinegar and Georgian adjika-based "hot sauce" are around to pump up the flavors. Savory piroshki show up on weekends, stuffed variously with, say, spinach and cheese or chicken, bacon, and mushrooms. If you're doing some real drinking, the simple julienne potato—a baked tater, chopped up and slathered in cheese and rich stroganoff-esque mushroom gravy—is both heavenly and ideal for soaking up booze.

I'm personally infatuated with Korochka's pickled carrot salad, served in a painted wooden cup that looks like a matryoshka doll but isn't actually one. My boyfriend and I fight over every last scrap of carrot, and I'm serious about that. The pickle plate, with creamy Bulgarian feta, rve bread, and assort $ed\,fermented\,veggies, includes\,a\,mini\,carrot$ salad, if you don't want to commit right away.

Korochka is also very pretty, which I wanted to be mad about but can't. The gilded wallpaper, floral dishware, and dead bear on the wall are verging on twee... but the shop retains a cozy, unpretentious chill that's helped by the free Tetris machine and the geezers filtering in from the dives down the block. In comparison to other local pelmeni/ piroshki shops with wanky Soviet gimmicks. Korochka has a quiet legit-ness that's more in line with an actual Russian tavern-and the general Lake City Way vibe.

Case in point: When asked what "Korochka" means, Malinovskaya said: "It was my mom's nickname for me as a kid, for being insensitive. It means 'heel of the bread."

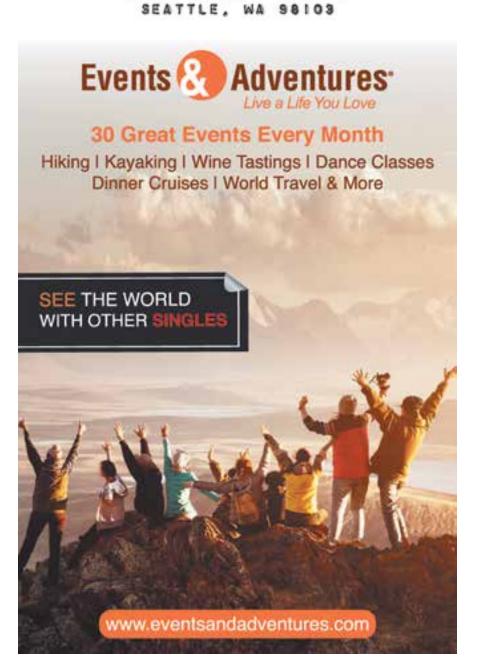
Tough. No bullshit. Sounds pretty Lake City to me. ■



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#### Aren't We All Adults Here?

#### Why isn't drinking allowed in Seattle strip clubs?

#### BY KATIE HERZOG

ccasionally-say, on summer nights when the rooftop bars and sidewalk patios are hot enough to cook on—all you want to do is sit in the air-conditioning, drink an icv cold vodka tonic, and look at some titties

Well, if you live in Seattle, good luck with that, because you cannot legally purchase alcohol at strip clubs in Washington State. You can look, but you can't drink, and this law according to a number of exotic dancers I spoke to, makes their jobs harder, less lucrative, and more dangerous.

"People say if you allow drinking, the men are going to act crazy, and so this is a way of protecting the girls," said Angelique, a Seattle native who has been an exotic dancer since 1994. "But men show up drunk and act crazy anyway. It doesn't protect us."

This was echoed by Aubrey, another longtime dancer in Seattle, "Not serving alcohol doesn't mean drunk people don't come in," she said. "At the clubs I've worked at, they allow drunk guys to come in from the bars across the street, so we are still dealing with them regardless." If clubs were selling alcohol, she added, at least they'd be able to cut customers off.

Both Angelique and Aubrev have worked in clubs across the United States, and they say that Seattle is one of the most difficult and least lucrative cities to be a stripper, in no small part thanks to the statewide ban on alcohol sales. In other cities and states, strip clubs make the bulk of their money from the sale of booze. In Seattle, clubs make their money off the dancers themselves, who have to pay for the privilege of working. And those house fees are not cheap: At Deia Vu. a local chain with a near-monopoly in the downtown area, dancers are charged \$120 to \$180 a night—and if they don't make that money, the club will charge them back rent.

The lack of alcohol also changes the vibe. "Tourists and bachelor parties might come in, but when they realize they can't get a drink, they leave," Aubrey said. Unlike in, say, Portland-where strip clubs are allowed to serve booze and food, and where female customers and co-ed groups aren't an uncommon sight—Seattle strip clubs tend to attract mostly men on their own.

"I hate to say this, but you attract more perverts," Angelique said. "More people looking for extras. You effectively cancel out the casual night-out-with-the-boys

Shiara, a former dancer who has worked at 30 different clubs in seven states, said the same. "There is a huge, dramatic difference in clubs that serve alcohol and clubs that don't. The pressure to do things you're not comfortable with is way higher. When you tell customers you don't serve booze, they



say, 'Well, what do you serve?'" The implication is that without booze, the dancers themselves are on the menu.

Some dancers are trying to change this. Angelique, Aubrey, and Shiara are part of a coalition of dancers who worked with lawmakers and the labor rights group Working Washington this spring to pass a law to enhance protections for dancers. In addition to mandating panic buttons in private rooms, the law will also require trainings for dancers on their rights and allow clubs to keep blacklists of bad customers.

#### Dancers say the law makes their jobs harder, less lucrative, and more dangerous.

The bill, which Governor Jay Inslee signed into law in May, will also establish an adult entertainer advisory committee within the Office of Labor Standards, half of which will be made up of dancers. It may well have been the first law in the state made for exotic dancers by exotic dancers themselves. But while this bill easily passed through the legislature, when it comes to allowing alcohol in strip clubs, lawmakers have been notably unwilling to pick up this fight. Most of them don't even know the law exists.

'The representatives were astonished to know that we can't even serve beer and wine," Angelique told me. She said she also spoke with several members of the Seattle City Council and they were also unaware. "They were unwilling to take up our cause." she said. "None of the council wanted to be associated with stripping."

Still, the prohibition on alcohol isn't bad for everyone in the business. "It absolutely benefits club owners" Angelique told me  $\hbox{``If they sell alcohol, the liquor control board'}\\$ gets involved, and there will be more oversight. They do not want oversight."

Allowing alcohol sales would also lead to more competition. "There are some clubs that have done exploratory studies about opening here, but they won't do it because of the ban on alcohol," Angelique said. This allows established companies like Deja Vu to maintain control in the area.

Deja Vu did not respond to multiple requests for comment, but clubs do have a history of being politically active when it benefits them. In 2005, for instance, Seattle passed a law requiring dancers to stay a minimum of four feet away from customers. This was, clearly, bad for business (no one wants to use binoculars at a strip club) and so club owners mobilized to get a referendum overturning the law on the ballot. It worked. The next year, Seattle voters opted to overturn the rule, and the referendum campaign was funded by the strip clubs themselves.

Not long ago, even in alcohol-free Seattle, dancers could make a decent living. Shiara. who retired from dancing in 2016, made so much money that she invested in real estate and now owns rental properties around the city. But those earning days are over.

The industry is gradually dying, in part because men have plenty of other options to interact with naked women. There are porn delivery devices in their pockets. There are cam girls they can speak to from the comfort of their home. There are hookup apps and online dating. And with all these other avenues—and without alcohol to entice more customers—the audience is just drying up.

The ratio of customers to dancers is now unsustainable, dancers say, and it is increasingly competitive over the few customers left. Without alcohol sales as a revenue for the clubs, they're making their money on the backs of the women who work for them.

"Most of the girls working now are on Medicaid," Angelique said. "The industry in Seattle is not going to make it if we don't at least introduce beer and wine. It's not the 1990s anymore. It's not that entertaining to come sit in a dark room and drink overpriced soda and get a girl in your lap. Customers tell me all the time: 'The clubs here are boring.' They have failed to innovate, and they have failed to recognize that the industry is changing"

And yet, the industry could change. It has done it before. And with the success of the stripper protection bill, dancers have demonstrated their ability to make policy changes themselves. They fought for their rights, and they won.

But for this to happen again—for antiquated, counterproductive laws like the alcohol ban to be overturned—they're going to need lawmakers, both locally and statewide. who are willing to stand up for the right to both look at titties and drink.

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#### The Party Starter

Nightlife impresario Kevin Kauer, aka Nark, celebrates 10 years of queer debauchery.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

hings are better than ever," said Kevin Kauer, aka Nark, over lunch on Capitol Hill the other day. He was wearing a chandelier pendant that he had made into a necklace and had a diamond tattoo on his left temple. He was talking about his work as a party starter and promoter in Seattle for the last 10 years.

He moved here from San Diego (where he "couldn't relate to a single person") and got his start taking photographs and DJing in Seattle's underground music and queer performance scenes. Within months, he says, he was throwing parties of his own at venues like Pony and the Eagle, involving wild themes and hilarious costumes.

Since then, he's thrown parties just about everywhere, including off-the-grid venues, and all sorts of things have happened at them, including not-strictly-legal things. His vast photography collection includes "shots that didn't go up on my website because they were like people fucking or whatever," he said, laughing. "Lots of sexy stuff." The photos you are allowed to see are up at NarkMagazine.com.

His goal has always been to fill the voids he sees in the local scene, bringing ideas collected from his travels to nightlife hot spots around the world. "What I am trying to offer is a high-quality, inclusive, off-the-wall experience with performances and lots of

Currently, he's throwing three parties a month at Queer Bar, including the Make Out Party on the second Saturday of the month, Pigs Fly on the fourth Saturday of the month, and a rotating night of special guests on the third Saturday.

At the Make Out Party, "there's a make-out photo booth, and every time you make out with someone, you get a free Jell-O shot." He thinks of it as a "giant icebreaker to skip over the Seattle Freeze. At this party, you can just walk up to someone and say, 'Do you want to make out with me and get a free Jell-O shot?' So it just eliminates a lot of those social barriers, which I think is really cool."

Inevitably, concerned people ask about the risk of getting a cold. "I have never gotten sick," he said. "If anything, I think I must be immune by now. At the core of it, people go to parties because they want to make out with people. And I think it has also strengthened relationships, because it's freeing in a way. We've gotten a lot of flak for it, but it's actually super innocent and cute.

It's so successful that he does the Make Out Party in other cities as well, including Chicago and San Francisco (where it's popular), Portland and Vancouver (they will both have Make Out Parties this year for Pride). and Hawaii ("which did not go well"). Someone in San Francisco made out with 31 people at one party—the current record.

Pigs Fly is a fetish night at Queer Bar,

and people come dressed in kinky gear, similar to the first Saturday kink party at CC's, although Pigs Fly is unique because there are performances. "We always do a raunchy drag performance at midnight," he said. He hires "hosts" to appear at his parties in costume, and they range from drag queens to Dan Savage's husband, a Tom of Finland model.

Nark parties aside. Kauer also runs a separate entity called Bottom Forty, a DJ collective and record label that produces

#### If you make out with someone at the Make Out Party, you get a free Jell-O shot.

Alternative Pride, five days of programming on Pride weekend. He thinks of his programming as an alternative to "people who want to dance to Cardi B on repeat." Instead, it gives partyers a chance to "develop a con $nection \, to \, a \, DJ" \, playing \, underground \, music.$ 

Alternative Pride will take over Grim's this year and it includes a Wednesday night fashion swap, a Thursday all-ages show at the Laser Dome showcasing queer DJs, and a Friday early-evening social gathering at the South Lake Union rooftop lounge MBar, which has

some of the best views of the city. "It's beautiful other reasons." up there," he said. "I This month at Vermillion, Kauer is celebrating his 10 years want to get people of bringing people together with together early in the weekend, booze an art show "documenting and showcasing the underground them up, get them to mix, and make Seattle nightlife scene of club them appreciate this kids, punk shows, leather men, place. People who sex dungeons, drag creatures, complain all the time and more," according to the about Seattle—I want to show's official description. "A big make them realize what's in front of them." Later that same Friday night

part of the show is a retrospective of the last 10vears of nightlife stuff," he said. It opens on June 13.

Nark calls his parties "high-quality, off-the-wall, and inclusive."

the Pigs Fly party at Grim's and a Make Out Party at Queer Bar simultaneously. A weekend pass to Alternative Pride also gets you into the Queer Bar Pride block party. As for Saturday, that is the beginning of Pride Is for Everyone, a 36-hour nonstop party at Grim's that begins "5 p.m. Saturday and basically ends Monday morning."

Wait, so what's going to be happening at, like, 8 a.m. on Sunday? "The bar will start serving again at 6 a.m.," he said. "Hopefully we'll have some breakfast snack foods catered." He mentioned the Berlin club Berghain—where club kids show up at all hours of the day or night, all weekend long—as an inspiration. And he said he'll release a set list in advance so people can stagger in to see particular DJs or performances.

As Alternative Pride approaches Sunday evening, the event will morph into another party he calls Back Door. "What is the concept, other than butt sex? Basically that," he said, laughing. "Last year, at LoveCityLove, it turned into a sex party. This year it will not be that, because we're in a public space, but it will still be a sexy party. Sunday is like last chance for butt stuff. I used to throw the Make Out Party that night, but on Sunday on Pride weekend, people don't want that."

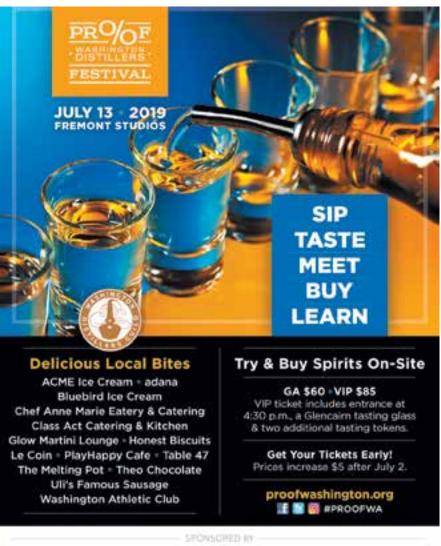
Asked about his take on Seattle nightlife overall, he said, "What people don't understand is when you're doing something that's already being done, you're not going to have an impact." He also doesn't like it when par-

ties are cliquey or "so focused on gay or straight. Bring people together for



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#### In Defense of Karaoke

To sing karaoke is to embrace the moment your love of song transcends your love of self.

BY RICH SMITH

araoke taps into a deep human need for connection in darkness-either spiritual or actual. Even the people who claim not to like karaoke realize that they are the ones at fault. They are too embarrassed, too worried about singing poorly, or too supposedly introverted to enjoy such an apparently extroverted activity. But even these sad people tend to like going out just to watch, just to be around all that good energy.

Luckily for everyone, Seattle enjoys several extremely premium karaoke spots. The best places for performative style karaoke are Crescent Lounge, Baranof, Bush Garden, and Ozzie's. Hula Hula used to be great, but things have gone downhill since they moved to Capitol Hill and spruced up the joint by introducing iPads and apps into their (confusing) system.

The best places for private room karaoke are Seattle's Best Karaoke (naturally). Venus, and Rock Box The first two are dives. Seattle's Best Karaoke-even though it feels like you're singing in the lobby of a temp agency—is especially good because it's BYOB. This makes the evening much cheaper, and, since the venue doesn't serve alcohol, people can bring their children to learn the lessons that karaoke teaches us about life. As I've written be-

fore, to sing karaoke is to embrace the moment your love of song transcends your love of self. Few activities that survive within American culture encourage this kind of behavior, and we must embrace and celebrate them when we can if we don't want to become completely selfish idiots.

Not all karaoke singers think of their performance this way. Some people choose ironic songs. Very good singers pick a ballad they belt out every time. These are gutless choices, and they often receive only obligatory applause.

The people who are really into

it, the people who put in serious cartime or serious shower-time, the people who are practicing in their studio apartments for an hour before going out-these people will get the true, heartfelt applause. Even and especially if they're not great singers.

> For this reason, karaoke ranks as one of the mostearnestgenres of performance. Ironic choices don't win over the crowd Bloodless ballads don't win over the crowd. Only good,

old-fashioned, earnest expression wins.

I didn't always think this way. I used to be one of those people who were too embarrassed by my objectively bad signing to take the stage.

But a few years ago, I was living in Ohio, and in an effort to combat the boredom of that place, I starting joining a friend at karaoke nights.

At a biker bar called the Smiling Skull Saloon. I watched a woman sing Janis Joplin's "Piece of My Heart" to the same ex-boyfriend in her mind every week for weeks on end, and every time I stood and sang in solidarity with her. "Take it!! Take another little piece of my heart now, babeay!!!" Because fuck that guy, that's why.

At another bar, a cooperative Mexican restaurant called Casa Nueva, I watched the tiniest, most nervous man I've ever seen fight his way through Toni Braxton's "Un-Break My Heart." He kept apologizing for his truly terrible singing during musical breaks, but he

> just had to get through it. He had to sing that song that night. When he failed to hit the last note and everyone rose to give him a long standing ovation. I had a tear in my eye. After watching him go through all that, I realized I had no excuse I started singing karaoke that night. Seal's "Kiss from a Rose." It was so terrible. I

was so happy.



Rich singing "You Oughta Know" at Bush Garden.

#### **Rolling with the Punch Lines**

The five best places in Seattle to LOL. **BY DAVE SEGAL** 



Unladylike with Erin Ingle and Alyssa Yeowman at Comedy Underground.

aughter has always been key to good mental health, said Captain Obvious. but in times when catastrophe is only a meltingiceberg or a Trump tweet away, it feels more necessary than ever.

Sure, you can fire up your favorite streaming service and binge on stand-up specials in your own filthy hovel, but that can be a lonely, somewhat hollow experience—although it allows you to fart with impunity. That benefit notwithstanding, it's much better to witness comedy in the imperfect flesh, where you can revel in comics' real-time funniness and flop sweat. (I see you, schadenfreude-lovers.) With that in mind. here's a non-comprehensive overview of Seattle's hottest chuckle factories.

If you want to encounter both accomplished comedians test-driving new material and newcomers trying to find their voice. you should head to the back bar at Capitol Hill restaurant **Jai Thai** (235 Broadway E),

#### Ahamefule J. Oluo once told a story whose longdelayed payoff hit like a neutron bomb of WTF?

where open mics and showcases occur every Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 9 to 11 p.m. The events can be a mixed bag where pros bang out three tight minutes of hilarity or amateurs bomb spectacularly—or, worse, fizzle boringly. These showcases typi $cally \ spotlight \ some \ of \ the \ sharpest \ regional$ talent, with ex-Seattle stars occasionally returning home to rub their successes in everyone's faces. The crowds are usually boozy and boisterous.

Comedy Underground (109 S Washington St) has a similar vibe. The dank, intimate basement has the obligatory brick wall behind the stage, a feature that makes every utterance 23 percent funnier. The club brings in a steady stream of excellent touring and local acts (ex-Seattleite Andy Haynes slayed at a recent date), and it hosts Erin Ingle and  $Alyssa\,Yeo man's\,Unlady like\,monthly, whose$ 

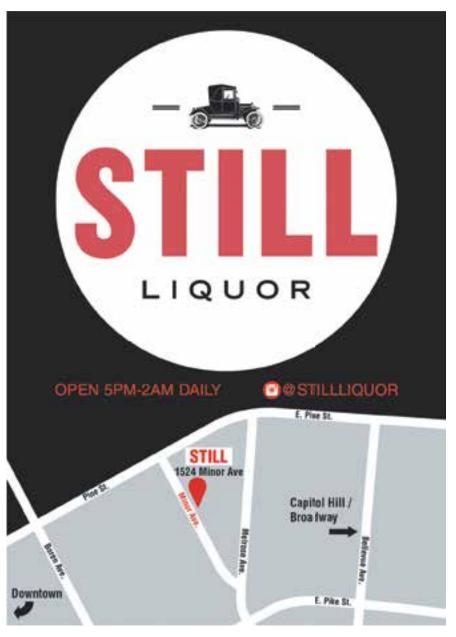
five well-curated comics offer "ten middle fingers at the whole concept of acting like a lady." Ballsy!

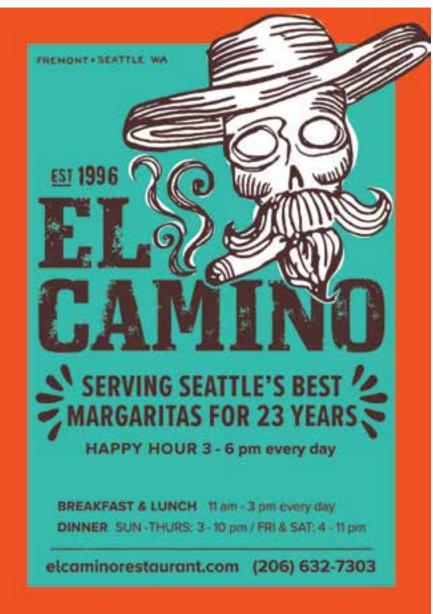
Also championing women-and nonbinary-comedians is Comedy Nest in the Rendezvous Grotto (2322 Second Ave). The night bestows two and a halfhours of heavily female-slanted humor-with the occasional nontoxic dude appearing as well-that eschews hatred, misogyny, homophobia, racism, and heckling. It's interesting to hear marginalized voices centered, and you'll likely learn a lot from these underrepresented comics as you laugh.

In a somewhat similar vein, stand-up vets  $Brett\,Hamil\,and\,Emmett\,Montgomery\,strive$ for diverse lineups at their **Joketellers** Union weekly at Clock-Out Lounge (4864 Beacon Ave S). Every Wednesday, they enlist some of the area's cleverest folks to tell jokes, read skewed poetry (Stranger freelancer Sarah Galvin has performed there), narrate wonky slideshows, and discuss progressive politics in a way that won't put you in a coma, while providing other tweaks to standard stand-up shtick. For instance, Industrial Revelation trumpeter Ahamefule J. Oluo once took the stage to tell a labvrinthine story whose long-delayed payoff hit like a neutron bomb of WTF?

Like his fellow straight white male comics at Joketellers, Isaac Novak excels at picking outstanding comics who don't fall into his demographic at the monthly Central Comedy Show at Central Cinema (1411 21st Ave)—while not ignoring cishet Caucasian funnymen. Every show delivers an eclectic range of perspectives at an elite level of humor-mongering. Seriously, this event's hit-to-miss ratio is absurdly high, with bills commonly featuring stand-ups on their way to playing bigger rooms.

Honorable mentions must go to the three big venues of STG: The Paramount, Moore, and  $\bf Neptune\ Theatres\ sporadically\ book$ some of the best comics in the game: in the last eight months, I've caught stellar sets by Maria Bamford, David Cross, and Jimmy Carr. And let's not forget Laughs Comedy Club (5220 Roosevelt Way NE), where I saw Hannibal Buress tear the roof off the sucker... and then replace it with an even better roof.  $\blacksquare$ 







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#### Seattle's Beer Industry Is Sexist

#### What it's like being a woman in the beer world.

#### BY ANNA COUMOU

f you are a woman who loves beer, or sports, or heavy machinery, vou're go $ing \, to \, face \, sexism-beginning \, with \, the \,$ assumption that you don't know what you're talking about. If you love beer and work as a bartender, you'll enjoy the additional assumption that you're only here because you're attractive (and remember, ladies, that's a compliment!).

Since it's unimaginable for women to be really into beer, when men find a woman who is, they have to fall in love. Well, it's not love, exactly. Picture a guy looking at you the way they'll look at the snacks in the Trader Joe's checkout area: They didn't know they needed it, but now that they know it exists, they have to have it.

A few years ago, a brewer who I'm going to call Chad started inviting me to take walks on the beach. Often. He confessed he was jealous of my boyfriend, and he gushed that he wished he had met me "20 years sooner." He wasn't bothered by the fact that I worked for him, or that he had a wife and two young children, all of whom I'd met and grown to care for. He wasn't halted by our 20-plus-year age difference. My only coworker also noticed my boss's bad behavior and backed me up

After I told Chad he shouldn't be asking me to go on walks, and that he couldn't speak to me the way he was speaking to me, things didn't change. Eventually, I told him I couldn't work for him anymore. He said he understood. We never spoke of it again, and that's where it ended—for him. For me? An otherwise great working relationship had been ruined. I had to find a new job. And new employers tend to ask: Where did you work previously? Why did you leave? Can I have a reference? Why not?

When I eventually did get hired making beer for another company. I had a hard time working with the new brewer. Sure, he was older, married, and had young childrenbut that meant nothing in terms of my own sense of security anymore. I moved out of brewing, back to a front-of-house job. But this employer bought the beer Chad's company made. So Chad came into my place of employment again and again, because, well, why wouldn't he? He feels safe everywhere.

For years, I didn't share these experiences with more than a handful of people. Being respected and valued as a woman in the beer industry is an uphill battle to begin with. I don't want Chad's stains on my

"Women just aren't cut out for this job," he said. "Not to mention, they can be really distracting!"

record I don't want to be perceived as "difficult to work with." I want to be able to have a great rapport with my employer without fearing sexual harassment. I want none of this to have ever come up—the same way it never comes up for Chad. His example is blatant and obvious and, hopefully, rare. But he's not just one bad apple.

I went back to bartending for a third company after working as a brewer, and one afternoon a (different, but same) Chad sat down at the bar. He was wearing the uniform: a beard, a Holy Mountain T-shirt. He stayed for a few hours, carrying out a long monologue on his work history and things he knows, like, a lot about. He explained, "Women just aren't physically cut out for this job." They're weaker, you see. "They can't lift kegs!" Also, they tend to change team dynamic. Speaking about the only woman on a team of nine bartenders, he said: "The girl that works with us now, she's cool, but..." Women start drama. "And not to mention, they can be really distracting!" He laughed. He works for one of the largest beer establishments in the city

It is oblivious and outrageous to tell a woman who is currently serving you beer that there's no place for her in the beer industry. The emotional weight I lifted for him that day was far heavier than any half barrel, but it's easy to get stuck between a rock and a hard place. Say nothing, and he keeps coming back, staying longer, assuming you enjoy his idiotic rants. Say something, and risk being labeled as bitter or mean. The environment is so sexist that before he ever has to, I'll tell myself (and other women will counsel) that it is easier and safer to accept dehumanizing language than to stand up and defend myself. I am forced to choose between my dignity and my safety, and that's not a fight my dignity can win.

And when you give up your dignity, what's left of you? Are you there at all? Like that time a sales representative walked into my work, where I was standing behind the bar, looked around, made eye contact with a male patron, and asked: "Do you work here?" He'd rather talk to any male at all than engage with the woman behind the bar. The awkwardness was delightful when the patron's face soured as he pointed to me and said, "No. She does. Obviously."

One time, I was able to bring in a beer I love, and I was incredibly excited to have it on the shelf. When two patrons bought a bottle, they asked me if I'd had it before, and just as I was about to answer, a male coworkermight as well call him Chad, too—jumped in. Assuming I couldn't possibly know anything about it, Chad cut me off and, with confidence, told the patrons things about the beer that were not true.

I have been "taught" things about beer and brewing I already knew by men who never  $thought \, to \, inquire \, about \, my \, knowledge \, first.$ Well, you know, there are many different ways to use hops." Yes, I do know. In fact, we could be having a productive, possibly fun conversation about those options, which has the potential to open us both up to new ideas. Instead. I'm dull-eved, absorbing the impact of his power trip.

Sexism happens everywhere; it isn't specific to this line of work. But these are the specifics of how sexism happens here, in our beer industry. I could go on for days with stories like these. I'm writing them down  $now\,because\,they\,tend\,to\,go\,unheard\,by\,the$ men in the beer world. Most often, they're simply forgotten, absorbed by women who have to get through their shift, or make the sale or mash in and move on There are so few of us in this business because it's a difficult place to be. Women are underestimated and undercut, sometimes profoundly, but mostly quietly. And yet we're still here.

It is normal, and it should be expected. that I am outraged by blatantly outrageous behavior. I want, just this once, for my dignity to win the fight. We just want equality,









#### Alex Calderwood's Legacy

The nightlife visionary lives on through a new fund to support creative youth.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

h my god, he was so amazing," said one person who knew Alex Calderwood. "And so humble." "He was this force of nature in the nightlife scene," said another. "He had this way of magnetizing people together."

"He was fearless," said a third person. "He

was doing things that were ahead of their time."

Before the nightclub ARO.space, before Ace Hotel, before Rudy's Barbershop, Calderwood worked at a clothing store on Broadway that salvaged old work wear and resold it as vintage fashion That's what he was doing when he met Linda Derschang, five years before she would open Linda's Tavern. "Alex was a part of Seattle nightlife since the late '80s," Derschang said. "I believe he had an after-hours club then in the International District, from 2 to 5 in the morning"—where they served drinks long after last call

"He was a connector before the word 'connector' was around. He wasn't a schmoozer, he wasn't a networker, he was a connector." Derschang said. "From a graffiti artist to a DJ to someone designing clothes—by connecting people, he was making cool things happen in our city. And then he started doing it on a national level"

#### "Alex loved to support the underdog, the weirdos on the fringe."

Calderwood began throwing dance parties in the 1990s, including a night at the Showbox called Electrolush (where Daft Punk played in 1996) and another called Funk Palace that he did with DJ Riz Rollins at RKCNDY. Then Calderwood (and partners) opened ARO.space, which is where Portishead played their first show in the United States. The capital letters stood for "art," "revolution," "organization." It was a nightclub, but it was also an art venue (KAWS had an early show there), and they had drag shows. (The venue later became Neumos.) While he was doing all that, Calderwood was also starting Rudy's Barbershop and the Ace Hotel with various business partners, and commissioning artists like Shepard Fairev.

"He really was a visionary in that he could see opportunities other people couldn't see." said Kelly Sawdon, who first met Calderwood at the old Cha Cha and is now the chief brand officer of Ace Hotel. Seattle had the first Ace Hotel and now there are Ace Hotels in Portland, Palm Springs, Los Angeles, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, Pittsburgh, and London, with another opening in Kyoto.

After the news broke, in 2013, that Calderwood had died. Trisha Romano wrote a



Alex Calderwood cofounded ARO.space, Rudy's Barbershop, and the Ace Hotel, among other projects.

retrospective of Calderwood's career in The Stranger. "They couldn't pinpoint the exact cause." Sawdon told me recently. "but he had a mix of drugs and alcohol in his system."

Before his Seattle memorial, "everyone started talking about what are we going to do to carry on his legacy," Sawdon said. "His impact was so significant, we thought: We have to carry on. Alex was such a beacon. How do we keep that light shining? Alex loved to be the underdog, to support the underdog, the weirdos on the fringe, the people being discounted or dismissed."

Now people who knew him are banding together to start the Alex Calderwood Fund, which will raise money and donate it to three handpicked organizations: Urban Artworks, Sanctuary Art Center, and Arts Corps. "They're all Seattle-based, and they all support youth and creative entrepreneurship," Sawdon said. The goal is to raise \$200,000 this year, through various parties in Seattle and LA this fall. Find more information at alexcalderwoodfund.com.

"Supporting young, struggling artists and creative entrepreneurs was something that came naturally to Alex," said Caterina de-Carlo, who first met him when working the coat check at ARO.space. (He would always remind her that Madonna was once a coatcheck girl.) "Now that he has moved on, Alex's legacy is in the hands of his closest friends and collaborators. We are excited to band together and do something in Alex's honor. And we are also excited about the individuals we will meet on our journey and the opportunity to support creative communities."■



#### Seattle's Party Animals

The other freaks that come out at night include raccoons, opossums, and bats.

BY CHARLES MUDEDE

e are not alone when walking home from a nightclub or a 24-hour restaurant. Night animals are all around us: in the sky, in the bushes, and, sometimes, right on the sidewalk.

 $Indeed, one \, night \, when \, leaving \, a \, party \, on \,$ First Hill at around 11 p.m., I was stunned to see a pack of eight or so huge raccoons amble out of the courtyard of an apartment building like it ain't no thing and walk down the sidewalk like they paid taxes, too. First Hill is a very dense neighborhood. It has no big parks or orphaned spaces. Where in the world did these big mammals come from? At one point, they turned into an alley that looked to them much like a street lined with restaurants looks to us—it was lined with small and large trash cans.

Raccoons "get into all kinds of mischief" at night, according to Sean Met, the owner of A Wildlife Pro. a professional wildlife removal company. ("Wildlife problems can occur any time—animals don't take the weekend off," its website says.) "They commonly tip over garbage cans and will pry or tear open anything they find that might lead to food. They commonly steal pet food. They like water, and will often defecate in a swimming pool or remove all of the fish from an ornamental pond. They have no fear  $of breaking into \, homes \, through \, pet \, doors \, or \,$ other means."

The raccoon's universally bad reputation  $has\,made\,it\,the\,most\,famous\,night\,creature$ of the city, but there are others to consider. For example, there's the opossum ( Didelphisvirginiana), which has the distinction of being the only marsupial on this continent (it originated in South America). This animal is also famous for playing dead. The performance is greatly assisted by the animal's ugliness and the fact that it is not really playing but is totally unconscious. When in  $danger, the\,opossum\,passes\,out\,like\,a\,drunk,$ and it has no idea if the ruse worked until it wakes up, checks if the coast is clear, and continues looking for human trash and pet food in the dark.

Then there are the moths. These nocturnal insects are, according to Lia Leendertz, author of *The Twilight Garden*, "a poor relative of the butterfly" and have a beauty that's underappreciated by humans because "they choose to come out after dark." But bats, an animal that, with owls, appear at that strange moment of the day described by the French as "l'heure entre chien et loup" meaning, the hour when the shepherd cannot tell the difference between the dog (his friend) and the wolf (his enemy)—have a different view. These flying mammals with  $funky\,noses\,certainly\,appreciate\,moths:\,They$ make a fine dinner (or, from the bat's point of view, breakfast). The main type of bat in Seattle is the big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*).

A new member of the city's life after dark is the coyote (Canis latrans). They began in the suburbs, feasting on housecats, and are now moving closer and closer to the heart of Seattle. Though it's not unusual to spot them during the day, the nighttime is their favorite time. The covote may have left nature, but nature has not left it: Their habit of howling is now one of the many sounds of the town, and soon it won't be so wonderful to hear dance music blasting out of nightclubs as this wild canine howls

I cannot end this short piece without mentioning the small mammals that, during the age of the dinosaurs, were confined to the night because being out in daylight was too dangerous Darkness was safer One of those night mammals turned out to be the ancestor of an ape that now dominates the day and has pushed lots of animals into the safety of the night. That ape is, of course, us. ■

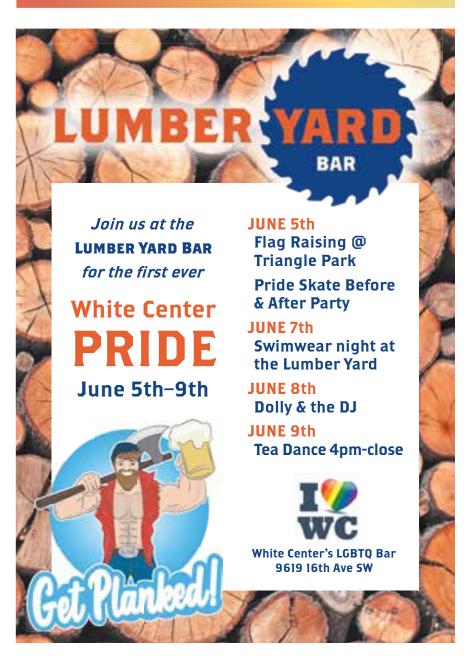


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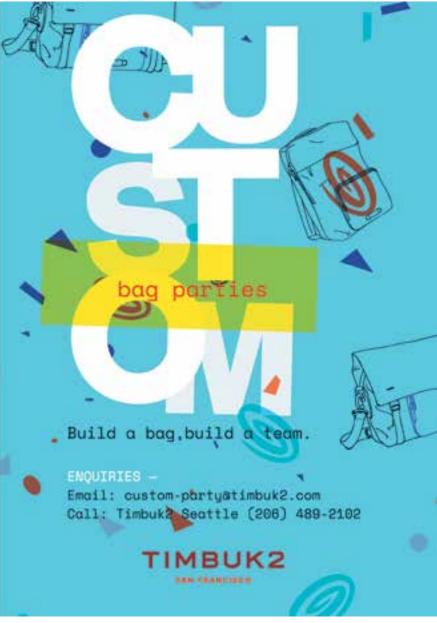
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#### June 5–11

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "I don't think we were ever meant to hear the same song sung exactly the same way more than once in a lifetime," says poet Linh Dinh. That's an extreme statement that I can't agree with. But I understand what he's driving at. Repeating yourself can be debilitating, even deadening. That includes trying to draw inspiration from the same old sources that have worked for you in the past. In accordance with the current astrological omens, I suggest you try to minimize exact repetition in the next two weeks, both in what you express and what you absorb. For further motivation, here's writer William S. Burroughs: "Truth may appear only once; it may not be repeatable."

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Peter Benchley wrote the TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Peter Benchley wrote the best-selling book Jaws, which was later turned into a popular movie. It's the story of a great white shark that stalks and kills people in a small beach town. Later in his life, the Taurus author was sorry for its influence, which helped legitimize human predation on sharks and led to steep drops in shark populations. To atone, Benchley became an aggressive advocate for shark conservation. If there's any behavior in your own past that you regret, Taurus, the coming weeks will be a good time to follow Benchley's lead: Correct for your mistakes, make up for your ignorance, do good deeds to balance a time when you acted unconsciously.

without coming down to earth. Alpine swifts are the current record holders, staying aloft for 200 consecutive days as they chase and feed on insects over West Africa. I propose we make the swift your soul ally for the next three weeks. May it help inspire you to take maximum advantage of the opportunities life will be offering you. You will have extraordinary power to soar over the crowd, gaze at the big picture of your life, and enjoy exceptional amounts of freedom. GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Some birds can fly for days

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): "I think gentleness is one of the most disarmingly and captivatingly attractive qualities there are," writes poet Nayirah Waheed. That will be emphatically true about you in the coming weeks, Cancerian. Your poised, deeply felt gentleness will accord you as much power as other people might draw from ferocity and grandeur. Your gentleness will enable you to crumble obstacles and slip past barriers. It will energize you to capitalize on and dissipate chaos. It will win you leverage that you'll be able to use for months.

LEO (JULY 23—AUG 22): Is the Loch Ness Monster real? Is there a giant sea serpent that inhabits the waters of Scotland? Tantalizing hints arise now and then, but no definitive evidence has ever emerged. In 1975, enterprising investigators got the idea to build a realistic-looking papie-r-mâché companion for Nessie and place it in Loch Ness. They hoped that this "honey trap" would draw the reclusive monster into more public view. Alas, the scheme went awry. (Lady Nessie got damaged when she ran into a jetty.) But it did have some merit. Is there an equivalent approach you be might employ to generate more evidence and insight about one of your big mysteries, Leo? What strategies might you experiment with? The time is right to hatch a plan.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22): Earlier in your life, you sometimes wrestled with dilemmas that didn't deserve so much of your time and energy. They weren't sufficiently essential to invoke the best use of your intelligence. But over the years, you have ripened in your ability to attract more useful and interesting problems. Almost imperceptibly, you have been growing smarter about recognizing which riddles are worth exploring and which are better left alone. Here's the really good news: The questions and challenges you face now are among the finest you've ever had. You are being afforded prime opportunities to grow in wisdom and effectiveness.

LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22): How many languages are you fluent it? One? Two? More? I'm sure you already know that gaining the ability to speak more than one tongue makes you smarter and more empathetic. It expands your capacity to express yourself vividly and gives you access to many interesting people who think differently from you. I mention this, Libra, because you're in a phase of your cycle when learning a new language might be easier than usual, as is improving your mastery of a second o ringin be easier than usual, as a improving your mastery or a second or third language. If none of that is feasible for you, I urge you to at least for-mulate an intention to speak your main language with greater candor and precision—and find other ways to expand your ability to express yourself.

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): Here's Uruguavan writer Eduardo SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): Here's Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano from *The Book of Embraces:* "In the River Plate basin we call the heart a 'bobo,' a fool. And not because it falls in love. We call it a fool because it works so hard." I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because I hope that in the coming weeks, your heart will indeed be a hardworking, wisely foolish bobo. The astrological omens suggest that you will learn what you need to learn and attract the experiences you need to attract if you do just that. Life is giving you a mandate to express daring and diligent actions in behalf of love.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21): When he was 20 years old SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 2I): When he was 20 years old, a German student named Max Planck decided he wanted to study physics. His professor at the University of Munich dissuaded him, telling Planck, "In this field, almost everything is already discovered, and all that remains is to fill a few unimportant holes." Planck ignored the bad advice and ultimately went on to win a Nobel Prize in Physics for his role in formulating quantum theory. Most of us have had a similar experience with people who've tried to convince us to reject our highest calling and strongest dreams. In my view, the coming weeks will be a potent time for you to recover and heal from those deterrents and discouragements in your own past.

columns address your ego rather than your soul. They provide useful information for your surface self, but little help for your deep self. If you've read my oracles for a while, you know that I aspire to be in the latter category. In that light, you won't be surprised when I say that the most important thing you can do in the coming weeks is to seek closer communion with your soul; to explore your core truths; to focus on delight, fulfillment, and spiritual meaning far more than on status, power, and wealth. As you attend to your playful work, meditate on this counsel from Capricorn author John Capricorn. "The geography of your destiny is always clearer to the eye of O'Donohue: "The geography of your destiny is always clearer to the eye of your soul than to the intentions and needs of your surface mind."

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18): Aquarian biochemist Gertrude Belle Elion shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1988. She was instrumental in devising new drugs to treat AIDS and herpes, as well as a medication to facilitate organ transplants. And yet she accomplished all this without ever earning a PhD or MD, a highly unusual feat. I suspect you may pull off a similar, if slightly less spectacular feat in the coming getting a reward or blessing despite a lack of formal credentials or official credibility

PISCES (FEB 19-MARCH 20): Today, Mumbai is a megacity with 12.5 million people on 233 square miles. But as late as the 18th century, it consisted of seven sparsely populated islands. Over many decades reclamation projects turned them into a single land mass. I foresee you un detraking a metaphorically comparable project during the coming months.
You could knit fragments together into a whole. You have the power to transform separate and dispersed influences into a single, coordinated influence. You could inspire unconnected things to unite in common cause

Homework: To connect with me on social media, go to freewillastrology

#### June 12–18

other planets to find alien life. Instead of launching expensive missions into space, we could look for exotic creatures here on earth. Astrobiologist Mary Beth Wilhelm is doing just that. Her search has taken her to Chile's Atacama Desert, whose terrain has resemblances to Mars. She's looking for organisms like those that might have once thrived on the Red Planet. In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you to use this idea as a metaphor for your own life. Consider the possibility that you've been looking far and wide for an answer or resource that is actually close at hand.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): We may not have to travel to

TAURUS (APRIL 20–MAY 20): Philosopher Martin Buber believed that some stories have the power to heal, and we should actively seek out these stories. Buber's disabled grandfather once told Buber a story about an adored teacher who loved to dance. As the grandfather told the story, he got so excited that he rose from his chair to imitate the teacher, and suddenly began to hop and dance around in the way his teacher did. From that time on, the grandfather was gured of his disability. What I wish for you that time on, the grandfather was cured of his disability. What I wish for you in the coming weeks is that you will find stories like that.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In the 1960s, Gemini musician Brian Wilson began writing and recording best-selling songs with his band the Beach Boys. A seminal moment in his development happened while he was listening to his car radio in August 1963. A tune he had never heard before came on: "Be My Baby" by the Ronettes. Wilson was so excited, he pulled over onto the shoulder of the road and stopped driving so he ne pulled over onto the shoulder of the road and stopped driving so he could devote his full attention to what he considered a shockingly beautiful work of art. "I started analyzing all the guitars, pianos, bass, drums, and percussion," he told the New York Times. "Once I got all those learned, I knew how to produce records." I suspect a pivotal moment like this could unfold for you in the coming weeks, Gemini. Be alert!

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): My dear Cancerian, your soul is CANCER (JUNE 21–JULY 22): My dear Cancerian, your soul is so rich and complicated, so many-splendored and mysterious, so fertile and generous. I'm amazed you can hold all the poignant marvels you contain. Isn't it sometimes a struggle for you to avoid spilling over? Like a river at high tide during heavy rains? And yet every so often there come moments when you go blank, when your dense, luxuriant wonders go missing. That's okay! It's all part of the Great Mystery. You need these fallow phases. And I suspect that the present might be such a time. If so, here's a fragment of a poem by Cecilia Woloch to temporarily use as your motto: "I have nothing to offer you now save my own wild emptiness."

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22): America's premier eventologist is Leo LEO (JULY 23–AUG 22): America's premier eventologist is Leo-born Adrienne Sioux Koopersmith. When she was going through a hard time in 1991, she resolved to buoy her spirits by creating cheerful, splashy new holidays. Since then, she has filled the calendar with more than 1,900 new occasions to celebrate. What a perfect way to express her radiant Leo energy! National Splurge Day on June 18 is one of Adrienne's favorites: a time for revelers to be extra kind and generous to themselves. That's a happy coincidence, because my analysis of the astrological omens suggests that this is a perfect activity for you to emphasize during the coming weeks.

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEPT 22): "Let me keep my mind on what matters, which is my work, which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished." Virgo poet Mary Oliver made that statement. It was perfectly reasonable for her, given her occupation, although a similar declaration might sound outlandish coming from a non-poet. Nonetheless, I'll counsel you to inhabit that frame of mind at least part-time for the next two weeks. I think you'll benefit in numerous ways from ingesting more than your minimum daily dose of beauty, wonder, enchantment, and astonishment.

LIBRA (SEPT 23-OCT 22): Libran philosopher Michel Foucault articulated a unique definition of "criticism." He said that it doesn't dish out judgments or hand down sentences. Rather, it invigorates things by out judgments or hand down sentences. Rather, it invigorates things by encouraging them, by identifying dormant potentials and hidden beauty. Paraphrasing and quoting Foucault, I'll tell you that this alternate type of criticism ignites useful fires and sings to the grass as it grows. It looks for the lightning of possible storms and coaxes codes from the sea foam. I hope you'll practice this kind of "criticism" in the coming weeks, Libra—a criticism that doesn't squelch enthusiasm and punish mistakes, but instead champions the life spirit and helps it ripen.

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): Help may be hovering nearby, but in an unrecognizable guise. Rumpled but rich opportunities will appear at the peripheries, though you may not immediately recognize their value. A mess that you might prefer to avoid looking at could be harboring a very healthy kind of trouble. My advice to you, therefore, is to drop your expectations. Be receptive to possibilities that have not been on your radar. Be willing to learn lessons you have neglected or disdained in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 21): As much as I love logic and SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22-DEC 2I): As much as I love logic and champion rational thinking, I'm granting you a temporary exemption from their supremacy. To understand what's transpiring in the coming weeks, and to respond with intelligence, you will have to transcend logic and reason. They will simply not be sufficient guides as you wrestle and dance with the Great Riddle that will be visiting. You will need to unleash the full power of your intuition. You must harness the wisdom of your body and the information it reveals to you via physical sensations. You will benefit from remembering at least some of your nightly dreams and inviting them to play on your consciousness throughout the day.

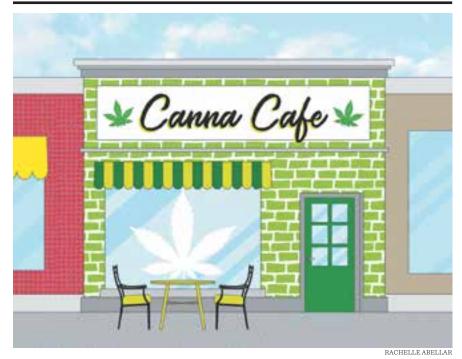
CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 19): For the sake of your e and spiritual health, you may need to temporarily withdraw or retreat from one or more of your alliances. But I recommend that you don't do anything drastic or dramatic. Refrain from harsh words and sudden breaks. For now, seal yourself away from influences that are stirring up confusion so you can concentrate on reconnecting with your own deepest truths. Once you've done that for a while, you'll be primed to find helpful clues about where to go next in managing your alliances.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18): I've got a list of dos and don'ts for you. Do play and have fun more than usual. But don't indulge in naive assumptions and infantile emotions that interfere with your ability to see the assumptions and infantile emotions that interfere with your ability to see the world as it really is. Do take aggressive action to heal any sense of abandonment you're still carrying from the old days. But don't poison yourself with feelings of blame toward the people who abandoned you. Do unleash wild flights of fantasy and marvelous speculations about seemingly impossible futures that maybe aren't so impossible. But don't get so fixated on wild fantasies and marvelous speculations that you neglect to embrace the subtle joys that are actually available to you right now.

PISCES (FEB 19-MARCH 20): "At times, so many memories trample my heart that it becomes impossible to know just what I'm feeling and why," writes Piscean poet Mark Nepo. While that experience is familiar to everyone, it's especially common for you Pisceans. That's the bad news. But here's the good news: In the coming weeks, your heart is unlikely to be trampled by your memories. Hence, you will have an excellent chance to know exactly what you're feeling and why. The weight of the past will at least exactly discussed and will be fixed the provide the past will at least partially dissolve, and you'll be freer than usual to understand what's true for you right now without having to sort through confusing signals about who you used to be

Homework: Tell how you have sometimes been able to transform liabilities





Portland, Las Vegas, and San Francisco are getting pot cafes. Why can't we?

#### Where Are the Cannabis Cafes?

omeday soon, instead of going to a bar to get a little bit (or a lot) buzzed, people will be able to walk into a cannabis cafe, order a pre-roll, light it up, and publicly enjoy some weed.

Not in Washington State, however.

Cannabis cafes, or consumption lounges, are coming to other legal-weed cities and states. Las Vegas is getting consumption lounges, San Francisco already has them, Portland has a members-only club where you can BYOP, and the Colorado Legislature voted last month to legalize weed cafes. But we're about as likely to get consumption lounges here as Jay Inslee is to win the presidency.

#### State lawmakers haven't heard from enough constituents expressing support.

There are a lot of legal barriers for consumption lounges in Washington, and one of the biggest is the state prohibition against smoking within 25 feet of any building entrance, exit, window, or ventilation intake. This law, which voters approved in 2005. means that the only place you can go to smoke tobacco here is the middle of the road—which I don't recommend Some bars and hookah lounges skirt the restriction, but any time laws have been proposed to liberalize these rules—in order, for example, to legalize cigar bars—they've faced serious opposition from anti-smoking advocates.

I know what you're thinking: Tobacco smoke and weed smoke aren't the same thing! And you're correct about that. While the secondhand effects of weed smoke are relatively unknown, cannabis smoke doesn't linger the way tobacco smoke does,

as anyone who remembers the days before smoking was banned inside (and regularly went home smelling like an ashtray) will attest. With weed smoke, however, you can light up a joint, open the window, and unless you have a particularly stinky bong around, the smell will dissipate in no time. Still, this is unlikely to change the minds of people who are convinced that any and all smoke is a problem.

There have been attempts to end the prohibition of pot cafes. This year, the state legislature considered a bill that would both legalize consumption lounges and allow cannabis producers to sell directly to consumers. The bill was pitched by weed advocacy groups—and Bailey Hirschburg, a lobbyist for NORML, says that allowing cannabis consumption at public events or in consumption lounges won't just be good for the cannabis industry, it's also an equity issue. Under current state law, the only place you can legally smoke is within the home that you own, which disadvantages renters. people of color, those with low incomes, and  $tour ists, who \, might \, come \, here \, for \, legal \, weed$ and find they have no place to smoke it.

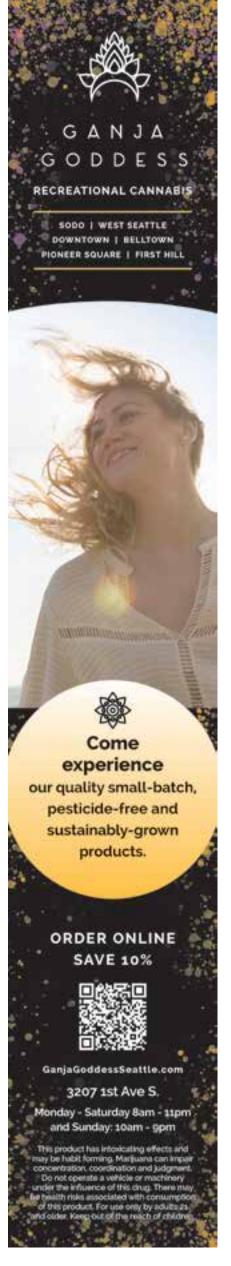
The bill, however, never made it out of committee. It was sponsored by Representative Steve Kirby, who told me in a phone interview that he's not optimistic it will pass anytime soon. There's just too much resistance from the anti-smoking lobby and people concerned with impaired driving. This was echoed by Representative Derek Stanford, chair of the Commerce &  $Gaming\,Committee, who \,said\,that\,while\,the$ anti-smoking lobby will show up when there is any attempt to liberalize current law—as will those concerned about impaired driving—he got only a few e-mails from people who support cannabis consumption lounges There was so little momentum, they didn't even have a public hearing.

Still, the bill doesn't expire for two years. So, stoners, if you dream of someday lighting up-legally-at cannabis lounges in Washington State, call or e-mail your representatives and tell them all about it.























#### **Baby Soft**

I'm a 27-year-old, male, adult baby/diaper lover (AB/DL). I've been in the closet about my fetish basically since puberty. As a consequence, I never dated or became romantically  $involved.\ I\ thought\ if\ I\ buried\ my\ kink\ with$ enough shame, it would go away and I would somehow turn normal. It obviously didn't work. and for the past year, I've been trying to find healthy ways to integrate this into my life. I  $play\,around\,with\,the\,kink\,in\,the\,privacy\,of\,my$ home and otherwise lead a normal life. My depression issues have let up, I'm more confident

day-to-day, and even work has begun to improve. I want to start dating. I went on a normal date, and I felt very inauthentic trying to be engaged when my kink wasn't present or at least out in the open. I just wasn't excited by the idea of a vanilla relationship. I would like to date women, but there's such an imbalance between men and women with this particular  $kink\,that\,I\,don't\,feel\,like\,I'll\,ever\,meet$  $some one \, who \, is \, compatible. \, If eel \, like$ I'm doomed to be lonely forever with my kink or sexually unfulfilled and terrified of being found out.

Boy Alone Basically Eternally

"It's okay to not reveal every aspect of your sex life on a first date," said Lo. a kink-positive podcaster and AB/DL whose show explores all aspects of your shared kink. "Besides, saving. 'I like to wear diapers.' on the first date is a surefire way to scare

someone off. A better strategy is to establish a connection with a person, determine whether or not they're trustworthy, and then open up about AB/DL That takes time"

Lo also doesn't think you should write off vanilla people as potential partners.

"BABE should know that it's possible to convert someone to the AB/DL side," said Lo. "I see it happen all the time. That's the focus of *Dream a Little*, my AB/DL podcast. Most of the people I feature are men who have turned their female partners on to AB/ DL, so the odds are in your favor." Lo herself is happily partnered with a vanilla guy who embraced her kink.

That doesn't mean you're guaranteed success the first time you disclose your kink to a partner, BABE. But you'll never find someone with whom you're compatible—or with whom you can achieve compatibility—unless you're willing to risk opening up to someone.

"BABE is more likely to be doomed to the #foreveralone club if he gives up entirely out of fear," said Lo. "Being an AB/DL poses  $some \, unique \, challenges \, in \, the \, dating \, world,$ but thousands of other AB/DLs have found a way to make it work, and he can too."

Now, before people start freaking out (and it may be too late), it's not just AB/DLs who "convert" or "turn" vanilla partners to their kinks. There are two kinds of people at any big kink event (BDSM party, furry convention, piss splashdown): the people who were always kinky, i.e., people who've been aware

of their kinks since puberty (and masturbating about them since puberty) and the people who fell in love with those people. So Lo isn't telling BABE to do anything that people with other kinks aren't advised to do all the time: date, establish trust, and then lay your kink cards on the table.

"BABE has come a long way, and it's great that he's building confidence. But he still views his kink as an impossible obstacle, and it doesn't need to be that way," said Lo. "It's so important that you learn how to accept  $your\,kink, because\,then\,you\,will\,know\,you're$ capable of and deserving of love."

And finally, BABE, if and when you do



meet a woman who is willing to indulge you—or maybe even embrace AB/DL play don't neglect her sexual needs. I answered a letter years ago from a frustrated woman who was preparing to leave her AB/DL husband because he never wanted to have vanilla sex and, as much as she'd come to enjoy AB/ DL occasionally, she no longer felt like her needs mattered to her husband. Don't make the same mistake that guy  $\operatorname{did}$ —or you could, after a long search for a compatible partner, find yourself miserable and alone again.

You can follow Lo on Twitter and Instagram @daddviwantthis. Her podcast and AB/DL self-acceptance programs can be found at the little lounge.com.

*I need help* deciding whether to listen to my mother on the matter of what's best for me romantically or ask her to keep her opinions about my boyfriend to herself. My mom and Ihave always been close. She is a single parent and I am an only child. I've always told her everything, and as I have gotten older that has started to become a problem. I've been in a long-distance Daddy Dom/little girl relationship with a middle-aged man with spina  $bifida \, for \, three \, years. \, We \, met \, on \, FetLife \, right$ before I turned 19. The entire time, my mom has made fun of his disability while occasionally putting her pettiness aside and acknowledging that he's good to me. I made the mistake of telling her about the BDSM element, and  $she\ is\ extremely\ uncomfortable\ with\ it,\ though$ 

she denies that it is why she disapproves. My Daddy comes from a middle-class family and  $has \, been \, known \, to \, say \, insensitive \, shit \, on \, occa$  $sion\ about\ working ext{-}class\ people\ like\ my\ mom$ and me. I checked my Daddy on his privilege. and he doesn't say stupid shit about the jobs we work anymore. I love my Daddy and can't stand the idea of leaving him, but at times I wonder if my mom is right that me loving him isn't enough. He makes me feel loved and taken care of in a way no one else has before, but I worry about whether I can have a futurewith someone who doesn't work, who my mom hates, and who might be a little bit of an asshole? (Do a couple instances of rudeness make

a man an asshole?) Help. I'm lost.

Dumb Daughter Loves Guy

Your entire relationship with your boyfriend-from the sound of things—has taken place online. Which is fine—people can forge strong connections online. But until vou meet this man in person (assuming you haven't already). DDLG, and unless you're working toward moving to where he lives, this relationship probably won't last forever-which is also fine. A relationship doesn't have to last forever to have been a success. This guy played an important (and still ongoing) role in your sexual development and brought you a lot of joy... and you can acknowledge those things while simultaneously acknowledging the reality of the situation: The man vou were with when you were 18 is probably

not the man you'll be with when you're 28. That's true for most people, DDLG, regardless of their kinks, distance from their lovers relationships with their mothers etc.

As for whether your boyfriend is an asshole... well, he certainly said some insensitive/assholey/classist things, DDLG, you let him know that wasn't okay, and he knocked it off. It's not proof he doesn't still think those things, but it is evidence he cares enough about you (or fears losing you enough) to stop saying those things. So even if he is an asshole, he is capable of moderating his assholery, which is something not all assholes can do.

As for your mom... just because you shared everything with her when you were a child doesn't mean you have to or should as an adult. There are things a mother has a right *not* to know, as my mother used to say, and her child's kinks fall under the "right not to know" header. When it comes to your romantic and sexual interests DDLG share the rough outlines with your mom ("I'm seeing this guy, it's long-distance, he's nice") but spare her the intimate details (BDSM, DD/LG, whatever else).

> mail@savagelove.net@fakedansavage on Twitter ITMFA.org

#### **ON THE LOVECAST**

What do we do now that Tumblr is dead?: savagelovecast.com.





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#### THE BIG & THE OBVIOUS

#### **Pride Month**

Major Pride Month events are kicking into high gear this fortnight, including the marquee event. Volunteer Park Pride Festival (Sat June 8), where you can rock out to a slew of excellent local talent, like SassyBlack, Whitney Mongé, and Thunderpussy (!). For more neighborhood celebrations, head to White Center Pride (June 5-9) or **Tukwila Pride** (Sat June 15). On the artsier side of things, check out queer-focused exhibits at the Skv View Observatory (through June 30) or Pilchuck Seattle (June 6-28), head to the **Queer Capitol Hill Art Walk** (Thurs June 13), or check out a panel discussion between local queer movers and shakers like Arson Nicki and Sarah Toce at **Queer Me** Out: 50 Years from Stonewall in Seattle at W Seattle (Thurs June 6).

#### Father's Day

Now's the time to show your appreciation for the kindly fathers in your life. If you're looking for something tried and tested for your Father's Day celebrations, check out pre-WWII yachts at the **Bell Harbor** Classic Weekend (June 14-16), heritage aircraft at the **Olympic Air Show** (June 15-16 in Olympia), or classic cars at Fenders on Front Street (Sun June 16 in Issaguah). If your dad's on the nerdier side. visit Washington State Summer Con

(June 15-16 at the Washington State Fair Events Center), where you can meet comic creators and sport cosplay, or see how marine mammal dads compare to your own at Father's Day at the Aquarium (Sun June 16). Got a foodie dad? Head to the Washington Brewers Festival to choose offerings from more than 100 regional breweries (June 14–16 at Marymoor Park), take him to the Greasy Spoon Southern Pork & Beer brunch cooking class (Sun June 16 at Hot Stove Society), or hop on a cruise ship to a **BBQ on Blake Island** (Sun June 16).

#### Juneteenth

Juneteenth (Wed June 19) marks the anniversary of the announcement of the abolition of slavery in the United States in 1865, and as such, it's a day to celebrate and learn about black culture in Seattle and around the world. For starters, you could commemorate the 144-year-old holiday by heading to Festival Sundiata: Black Arts Fest (June 15-16 at Seattle Center) for performances, food, fashion shows, and drumming workshops. For a whole week of festivities, check out We Out Here (June 14-19 at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute), an inaugural resource-sharing festival focusing on Seattle's African American community. Or you could join your neighbors for a Juneteenth Community Cele**bration** (Fri June 14 at Yesler Terrace Park) with live performances and speakers.

#### **Georgetown Carnival**

The wonderfully gritty and industrial backdrop of this old Seattle neighborhood will be awash with color as carnival games Hazard Factory's power-tool drag races, live music, beer gardens, arts and crafts, and vendors take over Airport Way South for the Georgetown Carnival (Sat June 8), the annual bulked-up version of the monthly Georgetown Art Attack and a hugely popular (and free!) community event. Live acts this year include Spencer Moody and the Blind Seekers, Seattle Drum School, Girl Trouble, and Knights of Trash, just to name a few. While you're there, be sure to check out the Recycled Arts Festival, which features a fashion show, a sculpture garden, a roundup of artsy cars, and an art market of rescued resources.

#### **Vashon Sheepdog Classic**

The only thing better than taking the ferry to Vashon Island is the promise of seeing athletic border collies chase adorable ruminant creatures around a field. In addition to the herding competitions, the annual Vashon Sheepdog Classic (June 6-9 at Misty Isle Farms)—now in its 10th year-brings local fare, a spirit garden, a fiber arts village, bagpipe performances, shearing demos, and more to the charming island. There will also be a visit from animal behaviorist Patricia McConnell—author of The Other End of the Leash.  $\blacksquare$ 

#### Short List

Furry 5K Seward Park Sun June 9 10 am-2 pm. \$40/\$45

Indigenous People Seattle Center

Sat June 8, 11 am-5 pm, Lard Butt IK Seattle Magnuson Park, Sat

June 8, 8:30 am-12 pm, Maple Valley Days

Lake Wilderness Park, June 7-9, free-\$30 Marysville

Strawberry Festival Marusville June 8-16, free-\$35

Paradiso Festival Gorge Amphitheatre June 14-15. \$179-\$499

Questival Magnuson Park June 7-8, \$47-\$64

#### Seattle International Film Festival

Various locations \$11-\$2600, through

Seattle Pug Gala Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Sat June 15, 11 am-3:30 pm. \$10

Seattle Urban-X Occidental Park, Sat June 15, \$175

Shilshole Boatfest Shilshole Bay Marina, Sat June 8, 11 am-4 pm, free

Sorticulture Garden Arts Festival American Legion Memorial Park June 7-9 10 am free

St. Jude Rock 'n' Roll Seattle Marathon & 1/2 Marathon

Seattle Center

June 8-9, \$59-\$140 Washington State

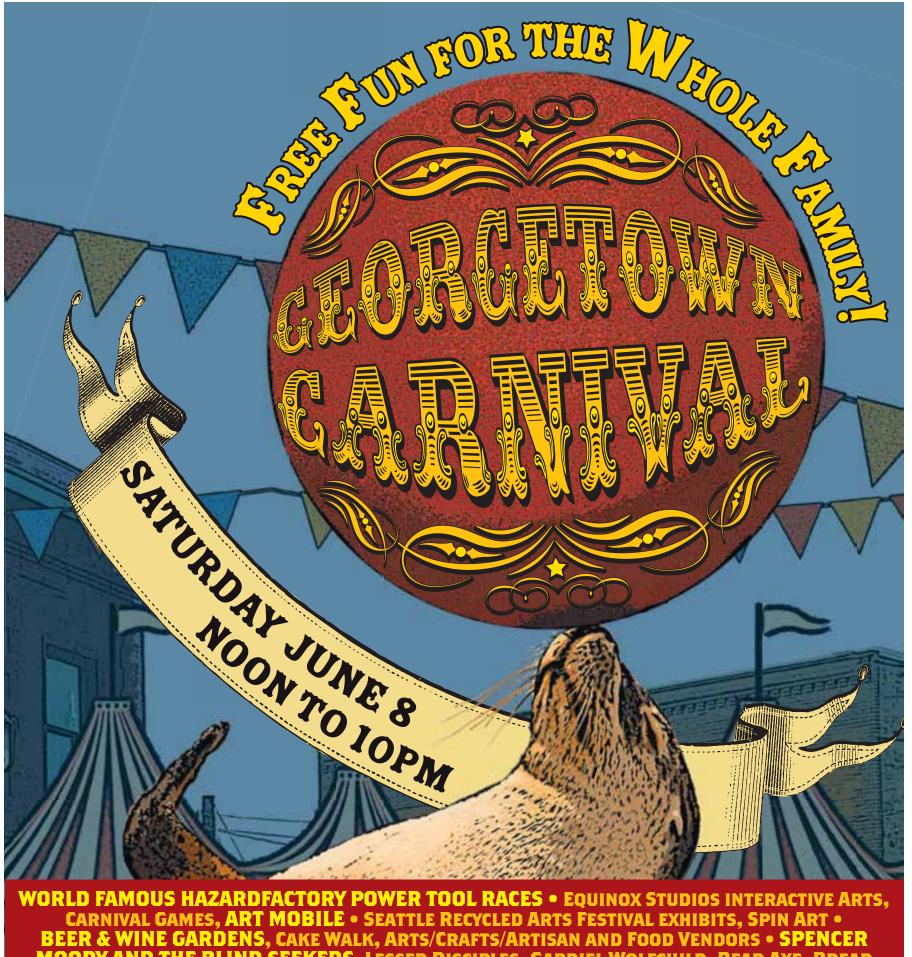
Summer Con Washington State Fair Events Center, June 15-16, \$30-\$250

World Ocean Weekend Seattle Aquariur June 8–9, \$28/\$33

#### **Early Warnings**

**SEATTLE PRIDE PARADE** Downtown Seattle, Sun June 30, 11 am, free

**SEAFAIR SUMMER FOURTH** Gas Works Park, Thurs July 4, free-\$60



MOODY AND THE BLIND SEEKERS, LESSER DISCIPLES, GABRIEL WOLFCHILD, BEAR AXE, BREAD & BUTTER, GIRL TROUBLE, WILLOW, A. GREENE, SINISTER SIX, SEATTLE DRUM SCHOOL, EAGLES AERIE #1 BRASS BAND, SIRENS OF SERPENTINE, KNIGHTS OF TRASH, CAKE WALK, SANCA ACROBATS, SEATTLE RECYCLED ARTS FESTIVAL DAYTIME FASHION SHOW • UNDERWOOD STABLES MUSIC: CALEB AND WALTER. CHRISTY MCWILSON. JOHNNY7 AND THE BLACK CRABS. OUTLAW













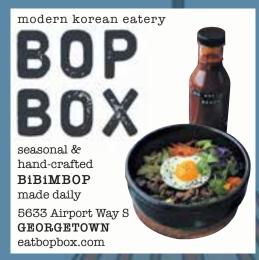


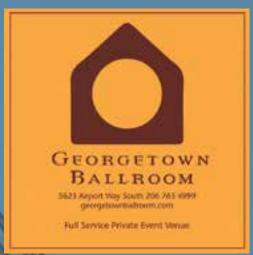


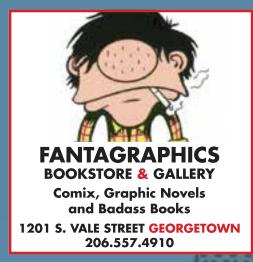
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  - **Praxis Arts** Susan Wheeler Home Kirk Albert Vintage Furnishings Fogue Studios & Gallery-SRAF
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- **Hazard Factory Power Tool Races**
- **Illumination Studios** Wittman Estes
- **Main Stage**

- 10. Georgetown Brewing/Charles Smith **Beer & Wine Garden**
- 11. Georgetown Trailer Park Mall Georgetown Arts & Cultural Center Palace Theatre & Art Bar
- 12. Equinox Studios Interactive Arts
- 13. Machine House Brewery-SRAF
- 14. Stable Stage Elysian Beer & Wine Garden
- 15. Jellyfish Brewing-SRAF
- 16. Prairie Underground
- 17. Festival Street Stage
- 18. The Hamilton Building

- 19. Georgeto Fantagra
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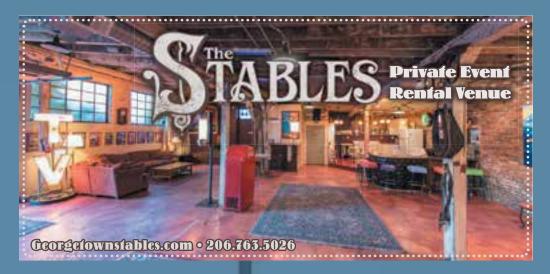
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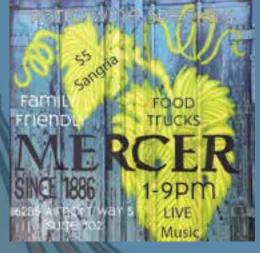






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#### How to Look at Cecilia Vicuña

The Chilean artist contemplates the "about to happen" in her first major solo exhibition in the United States.

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

ecilia Vicuña's work requires a different kind of looking. With art, it's always important to view whatever is in front of us carefully, intentionally, and openly. But Vicuña's pieces gently demand a certain

CECILIA VICUÑA: ABOUT TO

tain kind of intentional observation and consid-Henry Art Gallery eration. Her art is large-Through Sept 15 ly composed of material

attention to detail, a cer-

that's been discarded and overlooked; it contemplates displacement and climate change, embodied across several mediums, including sculpture, poetry, installation, and video.

I would first recommend relying on instinct when strolling through  $About\ to\ Hap$ pen at the Henry Art Gallery, Part of the enjoyment of her work involves remembering things you do not know you know. Or rather, there's a vast visual language that Vicuña works with that speaks to instinct, to nature. While many of her practices are deeply root- $\operatorname{ed}$  in conceptual, land, and feminist art and the culture of the Andes, her global concern with the environment and displacement cracks open meaning to the close looker.

Take Burnt Quipu (2018). Tethered to the  $high\,vaulted\,ceiling\,of\,the\,lower\,gallery, doz$ ens of lengths of knotted unspun wool are arranged in a forest-like fashion Vicuña has



Dozens of lengths of knotted unspun wool arranged in a forest-like fashion.

been making these quipus for decades, in reference to an ancient method of remembering (or record keeping) involving knotted cords. used by the Incas and other Andean cultures throughout South America. Quipus could be "read" depending on the number of knots and their arrangement. And in this installation, the quipus are large enough to walk through.

Being among the wool quipus is a sort of "reading." Walking through these unstructured wool beams is a feeling unlike any other—it's just to the left of traipsing through the forest and just to the right of being lightly wrapped in a blanket. It's unnatural, without any direct, analogous reference to a real life experience, and also utterly fascinating.

That sensation of being in a forest is exactly what the piece is touching upon. Vicuña made these beams in response to the forest fires in California and the Pacific Northwest this past summer (the "burnt" in the title refers to the color palette of these lengths of wool). It's a commemoration and hope that these trees will come back

The state of our environment is a fundamental grammar in Vicuña's work. One of her most popular practices is that of her precarios, which she began incorporating into her body of work in 1966 as a teenager. These tiny sculptures, which are sometimes also referred to as basuritas (little garbage), are  $made\,of\,found\,items-everything\,from\,sticks$ and wire to bits of rock or fuzz. Nothing is out of bounds

These precarios are site-specific; some of the sculptures for this exhibition are made of objects and materials found along the Duwamish River and Alki Beach. Assembled into a configuration on the floor in the gallery and also on the walls, the precarios are not really meant to fundamentally withstand the test of time, but to exist alongside it. They are fragile, not frail.

In the center of the gallery is a larger piece, Balsa Snake Raft to Escape the Flood, which is a snake-like, river-like sculpture constructed using scavenged objects like twigs, deflated basketballs, nautical rope, etc., found in New Orleans, Chile, and New York. This material, this trash, is a reflection of us: our culture, our waste, our carelessness. Vicuña finds purpose and beauty in the discarded and overlooked—a hope. So what are we going to do with it?  $\blacksquare$ 

#### Top Picks

JUNE 6-JULY 13

#### **John Buck: 'Woodcut Prints** and Kinetic Sculpture'

John Buck's sculptures move. Composed of wood, they spin, rock, twirl, paddle, and come to life. Buck draws on current events, popular culture, humor, and classical iconography to create his sculptures-headless svelte bodies juxtaposed on elaborate moving wheels. They are marvelous not only because of their movement but also due to their intricacy, complexity, and attention to detail. In his show at Greg Kucera, Buck will not only be showing these kinetic sculptures but also his large, colorful, and slightly surreal woodblock prints. (Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free.) **JASMYNE KEIMIG** 

#### **JUNE 8-JULY 27**

#### Claire Partington: 'The Hunting Party'

Fresh off the debut of her two-year installation Taking Tea in the Porcelain Room at Seattle Art Museum, British ceramicist Claire Partington is

back in town showing new work. Instead of focusing on the tea trade, her Winston Wachter exhibit is a playful dissection and send-up of a European hunting party. Each figure in the group has a removable head that can be swapped with an animal one (bear, warthog, etc.). And the Roman goddess of the hunt, Diana, is depicted with gold hoops and pubes to match. Partington's work is equal parts exquisite, fun, timeless, and modern. (Winston Wachter Fine Art, Mon-Sat, free.)

#### JUNE 15-DEC 8

#### **'Recent Acquisitions:** Tovin Oiih Odutola'

In Toyin Ojih Odutola's portraits, skin moves, glows, shines, and radiates. The way she renders black skin-at the beginning of her career, she worked in ballpoint pen-gives her 2-D drawings a dimension that I've never quite seen before. Her work is dynamic, beautiful, and challenging. The

JASMYNE KEIMIG

Frye recently acquired a suite of prints by the Nigerian born, New York-based artist and plans to show them in the inaugural show of a new exhibition series. Recent Acquisitions. Though Odutola's practice has expanded beyond pens and into painting and printmaking, all of her work is informed by a sense of the tactile, the topographical, the subversive. (Frye Art Museum, Tues-Sun, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

#### **CLOSING SUN AUG 25**

#### 'Studio 54 & Beyond: The Photography of Hasse Persson'

When imagining Studio 54, the world-famous (and defunct) nightclub and discotheque in New York City, one thinks of debauchery, drugs, celebrities, disco, extravagance, camp. I think of Bianca Jagger riding in on a horse, and Liza Minnelli in her long, lean Halston pants. But the exact shape and content of these images are blurry, I'm sure much like the memories of the participants. Swedish photographer Hasse Persson makes these images clear, and his iconic photography of the club will be featured in this notable new exhibit (Nordic Museum, Tues-Sun, \$20.) CHASE BURNS

StrangerThingsToDo.com

#### Short List

#### MUSEUMS

Victorian Radicals: From the Pre-Raphaelites to the Arts and **Crafts Movement** Seattle Art Museum June 13–Sept 8, Wed-Sun. \$30

#### GALLERIES

Book of Weirdo Exhibition Featuring Peter Bagge

Fantagraphics Bookstore and Gallery, June 8-July 10, daily, free

20/20: A 20th **Anniversary Survey** James Harris Gallery June 8–Aug 17, Wed–Sat,

Ed Wicklander: Mostly Cats Greg Kucera Gallery, June 6-July 13, Tues-Sat, free

Masks: The Art of Becoming Stonington Gallery, June 6-30, daily, free

#### Matthew Offenbacher: Feelings

Oxbow, Tues and Sat, free, through June 15  $\,$ 

#### Nark

Vermillion, June 13-July 6, Tues-Sun, free Peter Rand: A to B: 6-10

Gallery 4Culture, June 6–27, Mon–Fri, free

#### Robbie Riley

Linda Hodges Gallery, June 6-29, Tues-Sat, free

Wandering What Is Glass Box Gallery, Thurs-Sat, free, through June 15

#### **ART EVENTS**

**AMPlify Memories:** Temporary Installations Cal Anderson Park, June 13-Nov 15, daily, free

Capitol Hill Art Walk Capitol Hill, Thurs June 13, 5-8 pm, free

Georgetown Art Attack Georgetown, Sat June 8, 6-9 pm, free

#### Pioneer Square Art Walk

Pioneer Square, Thurs June 6, free





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JUNE 1 - 28

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## THINGS TO DO → Performance

## **She Needs Your Vote**

So You Think You Can Drag is a live competition at R Place with a \$5,000 prize.

BY CHASE BURNS



Contestant Dolce Vida (left) with show host Cookie Couture.

■ his has been the decade of drag. When RuPaul's Drag Race premiered in 2009, Barack Obama didn't even support gay marriage. Things have obviously changed. The success of RuPaul's Drag Race has unexpectedly spawned a massive revival of drag in gay clubs across the country—including Seattle.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DRAG, SEASON 2 R Place Wednesdays through June 26

Now there are drag nights at Seattle taco stands and pizza parlors. And some venues, like R Place and Queer Bar, have upped the ante by offering

queens big cash prizes in *Drag Race*–style live competitions. The ongoing competition on Wednesday nights at R Place, So You Think You Can Drag, is about to award \$5.000 to the winner of its second "season." It's one of the biggest cash prizes a queen in Seattle can hope to get.

"It's been a no-brainer success from the beginning," said Seattle drag queen Cookie Couture, who hosts the competition. The shows have been packed and rowdy: "We've been at club capacity every week this season."  $Tipsy\,guests\,chuck\,crumpled\,tips\,at\,perform$ ers, sometimes in the form of \$20 bills, while pushed against the venue's back walls.

"The show format appeals to people who are maybe really into *Drag Race* but haven't  $really\,dived\,into\,the\,local\,scene, and\,it\,appeals$ to the folks who support the locals on the regular. Plus. vou wave \$5K around, and people really try to make their performances stand out as something special," said Couture.

So You Think You Can Drag has a pretty standard drag-competition format: Each week opens with a runway where contestants have to strut in a look created for a theme they are told about a few days in advance. Then each queen performs a lipsync. Then audience members vote for their favorites. Eventually, one queen per week  $gets\ sent\ home.\ It\ can\ get\ emotional,\ which$ is part of the fun.

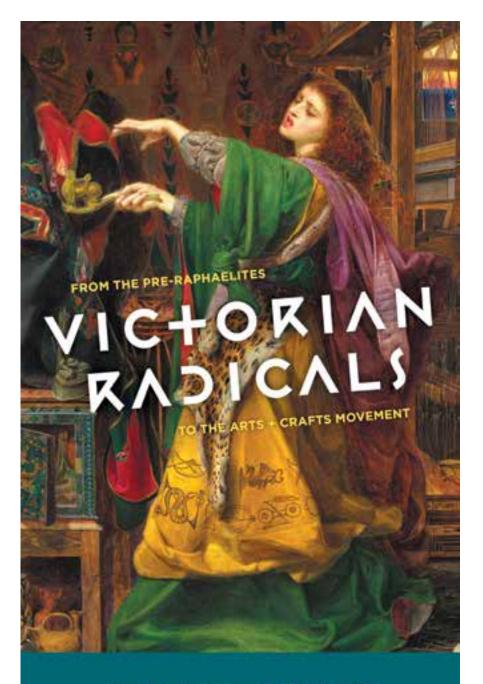
"Emotions have definitely run higher this season," said Couture. "But I also think there's a lot of friendship and sisterhood happening backstage."

Last season's finale crowned Irene Du-Bois, a glam alien-like queen who could go heel-to-heel with the country's top performers. Along with a cash prize, DuBois was awarded a recurring spot in Lashes, R Place's weekly drag show.

This season, there's a whole new crop of queens. "We've got people who've been doing drag for six-plus years and some who have done drag for only a few months," said Couture. "I love that it's an even playing field in that way. I don't play favorites, but there are a  $few\,underdogs\,in\,the\,competition\,that\,have$ been slaying completely out of nowhere."

Kung Pow Meow has been a standout, memorably wearing a dress that looked like a Chihuly glass sculpture (colorful tentacles extending in every direction) for the week when the look had to be inspired by each queen's hometown. (Like Dale Chihuly, Kung Pow Meow is from Tacoma.) Miss Texas 1988, another favorite, has been earning fans with her clever, trashy drag. For a "red carpet" runway theme, she came out naked, except for a red merkin (that's a fancy word for a pubic wig) over her crotch.

So You Think You Can Drag will have its finale on June 26, during Pride week. When I asked if the competition has gotten wild this year. Cookie Couture laughed, "Does it get wild? Have you ever dangled \$5K in frontof 10 drag queens before?!" ■



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June 6, 7:30pm, \$5-\$15 The Great Hall at Town Hall Enlighten us but make it quick!

#### IMBOLO MBUE

June 7, 7:30pm, \$10-\$80 The Great Hall at Town Hall Seattle Arts & Lectures presents the author of Behold the Dreamers.

#### **ESTHER WOJCICKI**

June 7, 7:30pm, \$5 The Forum at Town Hall successful people.

PABLO NERUDA'S CANTO GENERAL': A CONCERT May 28, 7:30pm, \$20-\$27 The Great Hall at Town Hall Seattle Peace Chorus presents Canto General, a piece composed by Mikis Theodorakis based on the poetry of Pablo Neruda.

#### **PARENTING WITHOUT PITY**

June 13, 7:30pm, \$5 The Forum at Town Hall Presented with Disability Rights Washington, a panel of parents with disabilities.

#### ROBERT MACFARLANE

June 14, 7:30am, \$5 The Forum at Town Hall An exploration of Earth's vast subterranean landscape.



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## THINGS TO DO → Performance

## Top Picks

**JUNE 6-9** 



## 'Danses des Cygnes'

In a world where remounting classic shows means potentially releasing all the unexamined misogyny and racism fossilized within them back out into the world like so much fracked gas, artists seem to be choosing to direct productions that critique the bad ideas running throughout those shows, or they completely deconstruct them with a modern interpretation and reverse the power dynamics. Natascha Greenwalt and Coriolis Dance have chosen the latter option with Danses des Cygnes, which takes its name from a famous movement in the second act of Swan Lake, where four dancers link hands and dance in unison. The movement is a show of strength, a defensive posture, and a big fuck you to the world of violent male aggression the swans have found themselves in. Greenwalt's piece will likely align with those ideas. (Velocity Dance Center, 7:30 pm, \$20/\$25.) RICH SMITH

#### **JUNE 7-22**

## Seattle International **Dance Festival**

The Seattle International Dance Festival, organized by Khambatta Dance Company and Cornish College of the Arts, presents approximately 10 million performances (okay, more like 25) from international, national, and local acts over the course of 16 days. It's too much. It's not enough. The best I can do here is tell you to make sure to catch the following international acts: Sumeet Nagdev Dance Arts, Tara Brandel, Equilibrio Dinamico, and Tchekpo Dance Company with Elisabeth Masé. I'm also excited to see works from HYPERNOVA and the ka•nei•see | collective, both national acts. (Broadway Performance Hall, \$13-\$135.) RICH SMITH

#### JUNE 11-13

## 'The Price Is Right' Live

I'm recommending this show only for the opportunity to remind you that Bob Barker, at 95 years old, is still alive. The former host of The Price Is Right, a show where contestants spin a giant wheel and guess how much products cost so that television audiences essentially get hit with double the commercials, still walks this earth. In any event, comedian Drew Carey now hosts the show, and he's kind of funny for a libertarian—although the host for the touring iteration of *The Price Is* Right is a TBA "celebrity guest" that apparently changes depending on the city. Go on there, guess \$1 for everything, and try to win a Jet Ski. (Moore Theatre, 7:30 pm, \$18-\$148.) **RICH SMITH** 

#### **JUNE 12-16**

#### **NW New Works Festival**

Every June, On the Boards transforms into an open studio for the most gifted theater-makers, dancers, and performance artists in the region. Over the course of five performance-packed days, you'll see previews and dry runs and snippets of the shows everyone will be talking about two years from now. For their 36th edition, there are brand-new works from Sasha Petrenko (who promises an "eco-feminist sci-fi performance about sticky entanglements across ecologies"), Arson Nicki (one of Seattle's most concerned avant-garde drag queens), HATLO (the director of *Thatswhatshesaid*, the solo show that challenged draconian copyright laws and raised awareness of the need for better women's roles in theater), and Body Home Fat Dance, "a fat-celebrating dance collaboration." (On the Boards, free-\$40.)

#### **SAT JUNE 15**



## **Massive Monkees Day**

Massive Monkees Day is a true Seattle institution that is both entertaining and drenched in positivity. The focal point of this breakdancing holiday arranged by Seattle's legendary B-boy/B-girl crew Massive Monkees is the Pro Breaking Tour-sanctioned battle royale, which this year has moved to the Showbox. The world-class dancers (who will be traveling from all over North America, Asia, and Europe to compete) and the DJs who accompany them create an impressive musical/athletic spectacle, and the familial vibe that has helped to keep the breaking community intact runs strong throughout. (The Showbox, 6 pm, all ages, \$25.) TODD HAMM



StrangerThingsToDo.com

## Short List

The Agitators West of Lenin, June 6–30,

Cherdonna's Hard Ca\$h

Thurs-Sun, \$15-\$35

The Factory, Fri June 7, 8 pm, \$50/\$100

Don't Call It a Riot! 12th Avenue Arts, Thurs-Sun, \$25, through June 23

The Greatest  $Show \\ Queen$ Unicorn, Sun, 6 pm, \$20, through June 23

Hannah Gadsby: Douglas Moore Theatre, June 8–9, 7:30 pm, \$40

Mae West's The Drag: A Homosexual Comedy in Three Acts Gay City, Fri–Sun, free-\$24, through June 29

#### Pacific Northwest Ballet Season Encore **Performance** McCaw Hall, Sun June 9,

\$37-\$189

Pass Over ACT Theatre, \$27-\$47, through June 23

PNB Next Step: Outside/In McCaw Hall, Fri June 14, 6-9:30 pm, free-\$25

Take Me Out 12th Avenue Arts, Mon and Fri-Sun, \$24/\$36, through June 22

They/Them: The

Festival Annex Theatre, Mon and Thurs-Sat, 7:30 pm, \$10-\$20, through June 29

West Side Story The 5th Avenue Theatre, \$29–\$179, through June 23

Wicked Paramount Theatre, June 12–July 7, \$49+

**POETRY SLAMS** to POLICY PANELS

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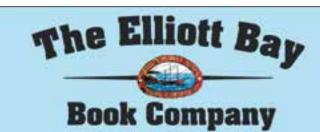
**PALEONTOLOGISTS** to PIES

**OCTOGENARIANS** to OCTOPUSES...





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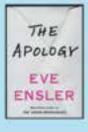




John Doe with Nicole Brodeur More Fun In the New World: The Unmaking and Legacy of LA. Punk DaCapo

One of our favorite 2016 events was an appearance by John Doe. legendary Los Angeles musician and co-founder of the band X. He returns with a follow up, More Fun in the New World: The Unmaking and Legacy of L.A. Punk-co-written once again by Tom Desalva.

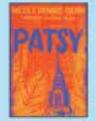
June 12, 7pm



### Eve Ensler with Amy Wheeler The Apology Bloombury

Acclaimed playwright, performer, and author Eve Emiler, most known for her groundbreaking work. The Vagina Monologues makes this welcome Seattle return with a powerful book of facing trauma and reckoning with it: The Apology.

June 14, 7pm - Hugo House



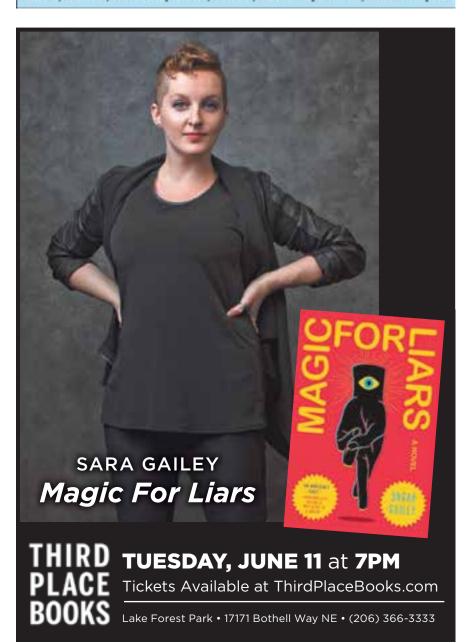
#### Nicole Dennis-Benn

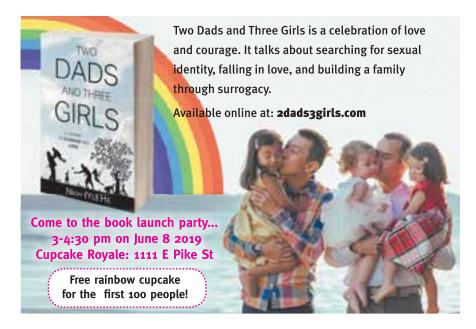
Patsy Liveright

Nicole Dennis-Benn's memorable debut novel, Here Comes the Sun, received the Lambda Literary Award and was a New York Timer Notable Book Selection. She is here once again, and welcomely so, with a beautiful new novel, Proy.

June 19, 7pm - Seattle Public Library, Central Branch

1521 10th Avenue • 206-624-6600 • www.elliottbaybook.com Monday-Thursday: 10am - 10pm Friday-Saturday: 10am - 11pm Sunday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.











## Flip Out for Hair Flip

Seattle's new comics quarterly is throwing itself a party at Fred Wildlife Refuge.

#### BY RICH SMITH

nce upon a time, there was a Seattle comics quarterly edited by Marc Palm called Intruder. After publishing 20 issues of one-color, full-page comics on newsprint, the core artistic collaborators ultimately got more demanding art jobs HAIR FLIP ISSUE #1

RELEASE PARTY

Thurs June 6, Fred After reading Wildlife Refuge, The Stranger's 7 pm, \$10, 21+ pre-postmortem

for Intruder, Ryan Tiszai and Simon Lazarus Vasta, two bartenders at Captain Blacks with a love of the form, took the baton and relaunched

the project as Thick as Thieves. With a vow to be more inclusive in their selections (Intrud- $\it er$  was considered a boy's club), Tiszai and Vasta plowed ahead with seven more issues.

and disbanded.

Last February, that project parted ways with Vasta, and the remaining contributing artists were left to figure out a new direction. Now comics artists Regn Siisel and Asya Yaschenko have joined Tiszai to help rebrand, organize events, and run back-end operations for the newspaper.

They've ditched the "stoic" Thick as Thieves moniker for the more upbeat Hair Flip, which Siisel says beat out Lil' Baby



 ${\it C.M. Ruiz translates the deeply strange story arc of \it `90s Nintendo\,game\,StarTropics\,into\,a\,comic.}$ 

Comic Papey and Trap Door as potential names, but only barely. The new crew is

planning to throw bigger launch parties, broaden the community of participating artists, and develop more of a web presence.

The inaugural issue of *Hair Flip* features full-page comics from locals such as C.M. Ruiz, Sarah Romano Diehl, Grace Kroll, Carl Nelson, Noel Kat, and others. The theme they're working with is "emerging summer." Diehl's contribution, Mutant Dandelion Summer, imagines a world where very tall dandelions begin mysteriously to grow all over the city. The piece is a breezy, surreal

take on the fleeting nature of the season.

Attacking the summer theme on all levels. Ruiz translates into comic form the entire story arc of a deeply strange 1990s Nintendo game called StarTropics. The story, which was dreamed up by Genyo Takeda (who's more famous for creating the NES game Punch-Out!!), follows a character named  $Mike \, Jones \, on \, a \, tropical \, adventure \, to \, save \, his$ uncle, who has been abducted by... something. Armed with only a baseball bat and a yo-yo, Jones rides dolphins, fights mummies in dungeons, battles galactic supervillains bent on world domination, and, strangely, jams

bananas in his ears to cure a headache. God. I love Nintendo games. and Ruiz's hilarious refiguring of this one is truly pleasing.

Hair Flip plans to throw a birthday party for itself at Fred Wildlife Refuge on June 6 at 7 p.m. Local bands Familiars (moody yacht rock that kinda sounds like Talk Talk) and Great Spiders (rock 'n' roll with a junky country filter) will play.

Jordan Rundle, aka DJ Sick Sid. will spin. My colleague Dave Segal claims Rundle excels at creating "dystopian ambient auras" and "rugged, jagged" beats that "sometimes take the form of truculent

Victoria Holt will create a thematic photo booth for all your Instagram needs. Other local comics artists—James the Stanton, Max Clotfelter, and Push/Pull Gallery-will table

As with previous *Thick as Thieves* parties, there will also be a raffle, which means you'll have a chance to win Instax cameras, original prints, light tables, and various gift cards.

And-because it is a birthday party-there will also be a huge-ass 100-person sheet cake. Go pick up the new issue and help them blow out the candles.

## Top Picks

#### **WED JUNE 12**

#### **Ariana Reines: 'A Sand Book'**

After the success of her last book, Mercury, Ariana Reines is finally out with a new collection of poetry. And it's a big one. She links her whip-smart lines using imagistic associations—"From Hurricane Sandy to the murder of Sandra Bland to the massacre at Sandy Hook," according to press materials—in an attempt to contain the whole of this rented world in a single book. She certainly accomplishes that goal tonally, swinging from academic registers to common vulgarities to high symbolism to sex. (Hugo House, 7 pm, free.) RICH SMITH

#### **FRI JUNE 14**

## Eve Ensler: 'The Apology'

Eve Ensler, author of classic feminist play The Vagina Monologues, was molested and viciously beaten by her father. She waited her whole life for an apology from him, but he died before it ever came. In this book, she takes on his perspective, tries to imagine the many forces that collided within him and turned him into an abuser, and then writes

a 112-page letter apologizing to her for what he did. "It occurred to me that there's a very big difference between punishment and transformation," Ensler told *People* magazine in a recent interview. "I think what I wanted to try to do was create a blueprint of what an apology might look like, what would it be like." (Hugo House, 7 pm, free.) RICH SMITH

#### **SAT JUNE 15**

## Elizabeth Gilbert: 'City of Girls'

Elizabeth Gilbert's career has been defined by one book: Eat, Pray, Love, a runaway best seller about self-discovery and meeting her now ex-husbandthe man she would, years later, end up leaving for a woman. She was wildly open about this development in her life, announcing on Facebook in September 2016 that she'd fallen in love with her best friend, who'd been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Gilbert was a successful magazine writer before Eat, Pray, Love and has now written 10 books, including Citu of Girls, which came out June 4. The book, which is largely set in the 1940s, follows a 19-year-old Vassar dropout who gets involved in a major scandal in the New York theater world. It's light and-in typical Gilbert fashion-funny, but Gilbert wrote it from the depths of her grief over her partner's illness and death. (Moore Theatre, 7 pm, \$36.) KATIE HERZOG

### **SUN JUNE 16**

## **Christine Deavel and J.W.** Marshall: 'Vicinity/Memoryall'

The two former owners of Open Books, Christine Deavel and J.W. Marshall, will read from and discuss their new play, Vicinity/Memoryall. "The play follows two characters as they struggle to find the memorial that marks the site of a violent act that had a traumatic effect on their city," according to press materials. "Lost in their rapidlu changing and now unfamiliar downtown, they are led to unexpected places and responses." Deavel and Marshall are linguistic wizards who have been publishing poetry forever. I have no doubt their talents will translate to the stage, but I bet this staged reading will highlight the lyricism of the text. (Elliott Bay Book Company, 3 pm, free.)

#### **TUES JUNE 18**

## **Adam Gopnik: 'A Thousand Small Sanities**'

Criticize him if you must, but Adam Gopnik, a staff writer for the New Yorker, is a talented essayist, and he's also a talented speaker. I saw him give a talk at Town Hall a year or two ago that was phenomenally

arranged and presented, seemingly offhand, undoubtedly practiced, edifying, funny, etc. (By the way, if you do decide to criticize Gopnik—for being an apologist of bourgeois culture or whatever your argument is-you should know Renata Adler beat you to it. She wrote a stirring, almost convincing takedown of his work in her stirring, almost convincing attempted takedown of the New Yorker itself, a strange and fascinating book called Gone: The Last Days of The New Yorker.) Anyway, Gopnik. He's good. (Town Hall, 7:30 pm, \$5.) **CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE** 

#### MORE )

StrangerThingsToDo.com

## Short List

#### Angela Garbes: Like a Mother

Elliott Bay Book Company, Sun June 9, 3 pm. free

#### Imbolo Mbue

Town Hall Fri June 7 7:30 pm, \$35-\$80

#### James Ellroy: This Storm Town Hall, Wed June 19, 7:30 pm, \$5-\$32

#### Jorge Pech Casanova, Claudia Castro Luna, Fulgencio Lazo

Elliott Bay Book Company, Thurs June 13, 7 pm, free

#### Lynn Vincent and Sara Vladic: Indianapolis Third Place Books Lake

Forest Park, Wed June 19. 7 pm, free Nicole Dennis-Benn:

## Patsy

Central Library, Wed June 19. 7 pm. free

#### William Shatner McCaw Hall, Mon June 10. 7:30 pm, \$72-\$128



# BLUE

JUNE 22 | 9:00PM

## DEERHUNTER + DIRTY PROJECTORS

JULY 20 | 9:00PM

## BOWLING FOR SOUP +REEL BIG FISH

TUXEDO

AUGUST 17 | 9:00PM

# MARC

OCTOBER 1 | 8:00PM

OCTOBER 8 | 8:00PM

CARAVAN

OCTOBER 17 | 8:30PM

OCTOBER 24 | 8:30PM

OCTOBER 25 | 9:00PM

## SHOWBOX SODO

# CHROMEO

MAYDAY PARADE

JULY 31 1 6:30PM

DEMONS

AUGUST 20 | 7:30PM

MACHINE **GUN KELLY** 

STREETLIGHT MANIFESTO

**SKILLET +** 

AUGUST 28 | 7:00PM

GEORGE CLINTON & PARLIAMENT FUNKADELIC

HIS VELVET & THE BLUE WOLF

AUGUST 8 | 8:00PM

ANGELS

SEPTEMBER 27 | 9:00PM

THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS

+ JAMES

FLYING LOTUS

AUGUST 11 | 8:00PM

X AMBASSADORS

NOVEMBER 17 | 7:30PM

## COHEED & CAMBRIA + MASTODON with EVERY TIME I DIE

JUNE 22 | MARYMOOR PARK

NATHANIEL RATELIFF

AUGUST 2 | MARYMOOR PARK

# SUBLIME WITH

JUNE 23 | MARYMOOR PARK

YOUNG THE GIANT + FITZ & THE TANTRUMS

with COIN AUGUST 4 | MARYMOOR PARK

JUNE 29 | MARYMOOR PA

LORD HURON WITH SHAKEY GRAVES

AUGUST 11 | MARYMOOR PARK

JULY 14 | MARYMOOR PARK

AUGUST 18 | MARYMOOR PARK

## Love in a Time of Internment

## Kishi Bashi brings a dazzling new album to Washington Hall.

#### **BY LEILANI POLK**

he fourth and latest album from Kaoru Ishibashi (professionally known as Kishi Bashi) is bright, poignant, heartfelt, and infused with a sense of hope, even during its more melancholy moments. From the breezy, acoustic-guitar-picked opening of "Penny Rabbit and Summer Bear" with its

KISHI BASHI Sun June 16, Washington Hall, 7 pm, \$32.50,

Harry Nilsson "Everybody's Talkin" feel, to the sweeping symphonics and forlorn beauty of "Summer of '42," to the twangy fiddle-rousing banjo-plucked closer "Annie,

Heart Thief of the Sea," Omoiyari is a stunner that remains uplifting despite its bleak inspiration: the WWII internment of Japanese Americans.

Omoiyari is a bit of a departure from Kishi Bashi's previous efforts, folkier while conversely more finely composed and or $che strated. \, Instead \, of \, mostly \, producing \, the \,$ entire album himself, the Berklee-trained musician (who sings and plays violin primarily, but also guitar and keys) brought on a band (including frequent collaborator Tall Tall Trees on bass and banjo) and some chamber players to back him up. It's also more political, though the parallels between what happened then versus what's happening now are examined more deeply and thoroughly in accompanying documen $tary {\it Omoiyari: A Song film \, by \, Kishi \, Bashi, } {\it due}$ out sometime next year

For Kishi Bashi, *Omoiyari*'s album form is less about examining a distressing moment in US history and more about exploring present-day issues reflected in our past. He uses themes of love, loss, and identity to spin tender tales that help us better relate to and empathize with people from a seemingly distant past. Initially, he says, he started to create something dark and heavy, but it wasn't working for him, so he shifted his focus to



Kishi Bashi playing at one of the former internment camp sites for his album and film 'Omoiyari.'

the bravery and resilience of the people who endured internment, who shed their culture and attempted to assimilate in a country that was actively discriminating against them, who held onto hope despite all the hate. He focused on the need for empathy, decency, and understanding as an answer to bigotry and fear, which informed the album and film's title: "Omoivari" is a Japanese word for altruistic sensitivity—the idea of being kind and having sympathy and compassion toward another person, whether you know them or not.

"Summer of '42" is Omoiyari's clear centerpiece, about falling in love in an incarceration camp and ultimately losing that love. It opens with an urgent, dramatic bowing of strings, a musical theme that carries throughout the gorgeous, sparkling composition, its grandiose instrumentation actually taken from a 25-minute symphony Kishi Bashi premiered in Miami that set the stage for the rest of the album. Its direct inspiration was an internment camp site at the base of Heart Mountain in Wyoming. "The scenery definitely inspired me, but it was an interesting duality I had to struggle with for a while. You go to these camps, and you try to connect with people's experiences there—but

you have trouble, because it's so pleasant and beautiful sometimes."

This dichotomy works, however-beauty amid the ugliness, hope amid despair—and it reflects Kishi Bashi's overall optimism about the future in a time when it often feels like American society is moving backward. As he puts it: "You can feel so dissatisfied, distraught, and distressed about what's happening in politics now. But at the end of the day, we're always progressing to become better. And I feel like in America, the ideals are still strong and there's the potential for compassion in everybody."■

## Ben Zaidi's **Independence Day**

The Seattle native has a new record out with producer Budo.

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

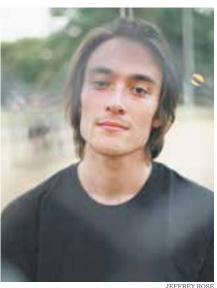
eattle musician Ben Zaidi's music is made for the bedroom. It immediately evokes the early work of James Blake or Justin Vernon. song "cherrypiccing"—a moody, trap-lite, sad-boy cut off his 2018 EP All/Alone—was featured on Spotify's "Chill Vibes" playlist, a good indication this dude has minimalist electronica down pat

But when Zaidi started pressing buttons in front of the crowd at a packed performance space in the International District a few months ago, introducing his then-unreleased single "Shambles." a different kind of sound filled the air.

The track felt fleshy and grand—its sen-

sibility broader than a bedroom, ripe for a producer to remix or a rapper to flow over. While Zaidi incorporated much of his signature electronic sounds and layered pitched-shifted vocals over his own craggy voice, the structure of this composition sounded surer, an exciting new development for this poet-turned-producer/musician/songwriter.

This change of pace is a result of Zaidi's collaboration with Seattle producer Josh Karp (who works under the name Budo). Karp has a long working relationship with the city's premier rapper Macklemore, having written and produced a chunk of songs off Macklemore's most recent record. Gemini. Zaidi. who splits his time between New York and Seattle, collaborated with Karp by send-





ing demos back and forth across the country.

"We started growing these seeds of songs together, and then finally we were like, 'We've got to really make this thing," Zaidi told me over the phone recently. "We thought it was going to be three or four songs for an EP."

After a few weeks of recording the result. wasn't an EP, but a full-blown album, Abandonism, which drops on June 7. Zaidi, who recently signed to Universal Music Group subsidiary Antifragile Music, told me the inspiration for the title of the album came out of his and Karp's interest in the multiple interpretations of the word "abandon."

"When you're young, you really believe in your independence and your free-spiritedness. You want to give everything to that," Zaidi explained. "But later, you usually come to terms with a kind of sickness inherent in being so carefree that you abandon people or abandon things that you know are important to you or matter"

Abandonism sonically and lyrically grapples with this idea. The record incorporates audio clips (most notably, one of celebrity radio host Dr. Drew chatting with... DMX) and, surprisingly, a lot of horns. Set opener "Independence Day" kind of meanders and unfurls itself to vou. Zaidi told me he wrote it while sequestered away in Vermont to focus on his art, reflecting on what it means to be truly independent.

"Set in Stone," which features vocalist Parissa Tosif of Vallis Alps, has a bright, light Caribbean flavor, like a blissed-out Drake track featuring a sax, while Karp's experience working with Macklemore shines through on cuts like "Painful to Be," which is anchored by a jangly piano and gives off heavy "My City's Filthy" vibes. Overall, Abandonism tries on many different hats, but it consistently manages to pack a punch.

Zaidi and Budo will take the record out on the road later this year

# L. Marie Cook + Emily McVicker SUBSTATION JULY 8







## Top Picks

#### **THURS JUNE 6**



## Diane Coffee, Claire George

ROCK/POP Don't be fooled by a name that hints at quiet spaces and acoustic guitar melodies: Diane Coffee is the gender-bending alter ego of Shaun Fleming, formerly a child voice actor, then actor, then skateboarder, then live drummer for Foxygen until he went fully solo in 2013. He started with hazily retro indie rock that, in the eight years since his debut EP and the few albums since, has evolved into the sounds on 2019's Internet Arms—definitively pop-sensible and synth-driven and inspired, according to press materials, by an apparent existential crisis: "It's a personal study on how I feel about living with constant blurred lines of the self and the projected self." Its loose premise-Diane Coffee trapped in a digital world, enslaved by Al-was "born from the fear and uncertainty of a future in which humankind is both dependent on and poisoned by technology." (Barboza, 7 pm, \$13/\$15.)

## Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever,

ROCK/POP Sub Pop-backed Australian group Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever play indie rock that's passionate without being over the top. There's nothing extraordinary about their slightly driving, modestly melodic, mildly intense songs, but they consistently hit a sweet spot for those who like their rock lean and unassumingly uplifting. RBCF don't really go in for the kill, but rather are the type of band that play a midafternoon set at a festival—say, Bumbershoot—on a

medium-sized stage and surprise you with their relentlessly stolid B+ rock maneuvers. And that means they're better than most in the game, even if you're unlikely to be inspired enough to get a tattoo of their logo. (Crocodile, 8 pm, all ages, \$15/\$17.) **DAVE SEGAL** 

#### **FRI JUNE 7**

## Team Dresch, Wynne **Greenwood. Pink Parts**

METAL/PUNK Legendary DIY queercore band Team Dresch are rolling through Seattle, the first stop of their West Coast tour in support of the 25th anniversary reissues of their albums. Every member of Team Dresch was an open lesbian at the time of their formation in Olympia, and they carved out a queer space within the punk scene through zines, music, and community building. Initially active from 1993 to 1998, the band reunited in the early 2000s and continue to perform and rock the fuck out. On this date, they will be joined by queer feminist performance artist Wynne Greenwood and Seattle rock quintet Pink Parts. (Clock-Out Lounge, 9 pm, \$15/\$17 (sold out).) JASMYNE KEIMIG

#### **JUNE 7-8**

## Dead & Company

BLUES/COUNTRY/FOLK The Grateful Dead fan base is so widespread and ravenous, it can support all sorts of spin-offs, tribute bands, deluxe reissues, official bootlegs, coattail-riders, etc. These aficionados are still the vital circulatory system of the lucrative jam-band corpus. Dead & Company have the benefit of featuring GD percussion deities Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann and OG (not Jerry) guitarist Bob Weir, as well as white-bread guitar hero John Mayer, bassist Oteil Burbridge (Allman Brothers Band), and keyboardist Jeff Chimenti (Bob Weir & Ratdog). These pros reverently reanimate easygoing, glistening faves such as "Sugaree," "Althena," "Terrapin Station," "Morning Dew," "The Weight," and others with expert precision and patience. That they possess the box-office clout to pack out two dates at the Gorge testifies to the durability of the Dead brand. (Gorge Amphitheatre, George, 7 pm, \$50–\$759.) DAVE SEGAL







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All orientations welcome









#### **SAT JUNE 8**

## Flipper, David Yow, the Derelicts, Thee Deception

METAL/PUNK My favorite American punk band Flipper are making a surprise return to the live circuit, minus substitute bassist Krist Novoselic, but accompanied by Jesus Lizard front maniac David Yow. This Bay Area group—which still features original members Ted Falconi and Steve DePace—released one of the deathless documents of Reagan-era rock in 1982's Album Generic Flipper. A dirty bomb full of nihilistic sentiments and implosive dirges that rivaled Swans for triple-bummer catharsis, the LP has paradoxically given life to people of a perverse mind-set for decades—especially the sludge-rock avalanche of "Life Is Cheap." If Flipper simply performed Album front to back and left the stage with middle fingers aloft after the chaotic payload of "Sex Bomb," that would be perfect. (El Corazon, 8:30 pm, \$20/\$25.) DAVE SEGAL

#### Mattiel, Moonwalks

ROCK/POP Atlanta's Mattiel (pronounced "maa-TEEL") is a potent source of flinty garage rock that sounds instantly familiar and lovable. Her style bears traces of bold singers such as Holly Golightly and Nancy Sinatra, perhaps if they were produced by King Khan and the BBQ Show or early-'00s Jack White. The new album, Satis Factory, is more than just that: It's a collection of instantly catchy subterranean-rock songs rooted in tradition without sounding staid. Think of it as a Southeastern counterpart to the Black Tones' Cobain & Cornbread. (Barboza, 7 pm, \$10/\$12.) DAVE SEGAL

#### **Tacocat**

ROCK/POP Homegrown Seattle "neon-candu punk-pop" (thank you, music calendar editor Kim Selling) band Tacocat have got it going on. Their

latest record and debut on Sub Pop, This Mess Is a Place (which is a brilliant title, by the way), is a bright, tongue-in-cheek, punk, saccharine rumination on These Times We're Living In, and also life. And while, yes, the political climate keeps getting shittier by the nanosecond, Tacocat know how to heal and charge forward while also making space to party. Be sure to put on "Grains of Salt" before you head out: It's equal parts punchy and dancey, telling you not to forget to "remember who the fuck you are." Yeah-Jasmyne! (The Showbox, 9 pm, all ages, \$17/\$20.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

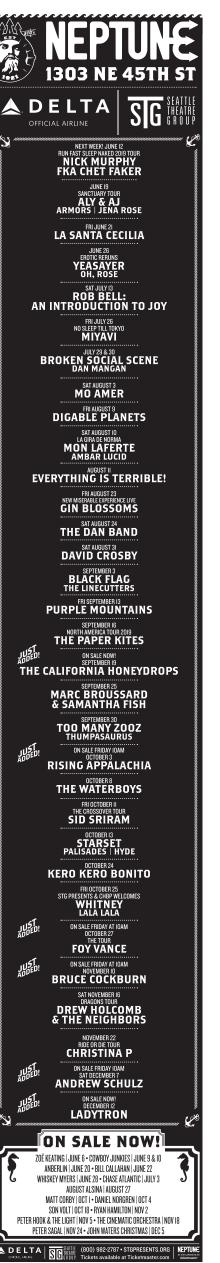
#### **MON JUNE 10**

#### The Cult

ROCK/POP Punters love the Cult, and they rightly should expect this night to be filled with the Brit band's rock swaggery. That said, their popularity always surprises me. Back in the 1980s, even with lots of radio play, they were almost immediately dumped into the also-rans file as their pop ascension was stymied by a first single riff in "Love Removal Machine" seemingly copped from the Stones' "Start Me Up," and then by the arrival of GnR. That was then, though, 'cause now it's easy to hear how they evolved from new romantics into heshers who, on balance, are way better than most other '80s hair bands. (Moore Theatre. 7:30 pm, all ages, \$37.) MIKE NIPPER

## In the Spotlight: Hannah Kendall

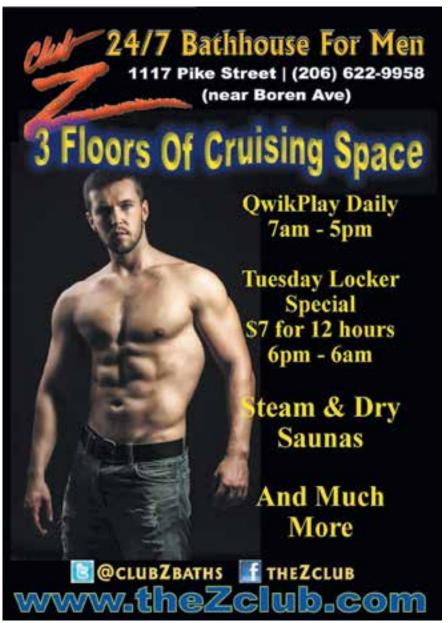
CLASSICAL/OPERA Seattle Symphony presents the US premiere of The Spark Catchers, a luminescent number from British (and millennial!!) composer Hannah Kendall. The composition conveys such a strong sense of narrative and action-adventure drama that it could be the soundtrack to a lost scene from Star Wars. The piece, commissioned by the BBC, has been getting good reviews. "Confident," says Classical Source. "Rhythmically incisive," says the Guardian. Stick around after the show to check out the symphony's new innovative space, and also











to talk shop about chamber music with Kendall. (Benaroya Hall, 7:30 pm, \$25.) RICH SMITH

#### **TUES JUNE 11**



## Father John Misty, Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit, Jade Bird

ROCK/POP Father John Misty is a perfectly perfunctory performer. When I saw him at Sub Pop's 30th Anniversary Party last summer, he hit every note, every dance move, every guitar strum exactly as he should. But it was still hard to connect with him behind those shades. It was like he was performing in his sleep. Well, what do performers owe their audiences, anyway? FJM released the pretty good God's Favorite Customer last June, which was a decidedly less preachy effort than his third album, 2017's Pure Comedy. God's Favorite Customer found FJM just as down, just as out, just as witty, just as self-centered as he's ever been-like we like him. (Marymoor Park, Redmond, 6:30 pm, all ages, \$65/\$70.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

## In the Spotlight: Bolcom, Jolley, Poteat & Hausmann

CLASSICAL/OPERA Seattle supports a pretty robust scene of local symphonic composers. Seattle Symphony has plucked out a few of the major players-William Bolcom, Jérémy Jolley, Ben Hausmann, and Angelique Poteat—and given them the room for the night. Bolcom's piece is a fun ragtime jam, Poteat's Ripples of Possibilities features meditative and warbly clarinets that break into madness, Hausmann's Sonnet for Eternal Loveliness is just sort of pleasant and at its best occasionally sounds like Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas, and Jolley's (contro-) clessidra I & IV combines electronic instruments with regular ones and basically sounds like it looks. (Benaroya Hall, 7:30 pm, \$20.) RICH SMITH

#### **WED JUNE 12**

## The Art Gray Noizz Quintet, the **Tom Price Desert Classic**

EXPERIMENTAL/NOISE Any band boasting former members of Lubricated Goat and Live Skull will get my attention. So it's pleasing to report that the Art Gray Noizz Quintet live up to expectations. The Brooklyn brutes' recent "A Call to You"/"Won't Say It to My Face" single pummels, whooshes, and oscillates like Hawkwind on a tequila bender. It's pugilistic rock with gravel-voiced singing that aspires to space, but it's too busy kicking your ass to achieve stellar liftoff. (Key detail: The drummer's name is Bloody Rich.) And that resultant friction is what makes the music so compelling. (The Funhouse, 8 pm, \$7/\$10.) DAVE SEGAL

## **Moveable Mirror:** Rudresh Mahanthappa, **Eric Revis, Dave King**

JAZZ Rudresh Mahanthappa is an American saxophonist who combines the Carnatic music of his Southern Indian heritage with jazz, funk, hip-hop,









**BOYS** AT HIGH DIVE The High Council, The High Seagrass

**UPCOMING EVENTS** 

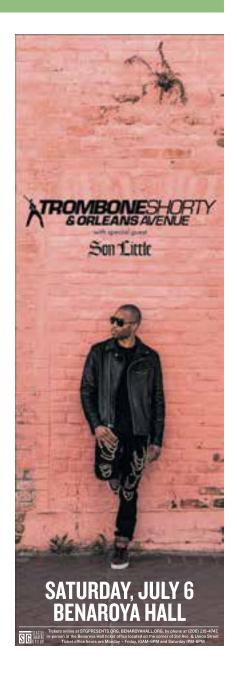




6.5 PATO BANTON 6.7 KRANIUM 6.8 CLINTON FEARON 6.13 YAK ATTACK 6.16 JOE DORIA 50TH BDAY 6.19 LARRY JUNE 6.22 FREMONT SOLSTICE CELEBRATION 6.26 ZION I + SLUM VILLAGE 6.27 JAY ELECTRONICA 6.28 LDW 6.29 AN-TEN-NAE + KAMINANDA 6.30 SHAFTY - PORTLAND'S TRIBUTE TO PHISH 7.3 JAI HO! 7.5 AROUND THE WORLD WITH KEXP 7.6 80S VS 90S 7.11 RONI SIZE 7.14 WASTED WORDS: ALLMAN BROS TRIBUTE 7.16 THE WARREN G. HARDINGS 7.17 TAL NATIONAL 7.18 BIG BRASS EXTRAVAGANZA 7.19 PRINCE VS

MJ 7.20 THE GEORGETOWN ORBITS 7.25 DOUG STONE 7.26 HIT EXPLOSION 7.27 TALIB KWELI 7.28 ANUHEA + SPAWNBREEZIE 7.30 DEVIN THE DUDE 8.1 & MORE 8.2 CLASSIC HIP-HOP NIGHT 8.3 WHO'S BAD: THE ULTIMATE MJ

EXPERIENCE 8.7 GHOST-NOTE 8.10 MONOPHONICS 8.13 UJI 8.14 U2 TRIBUTE 8.21 ELLIS DYSON & THE SHAMBLES





and other Western genres. He brings a hybridized vigor to these styles, blowing magniloquent gusts of high-energy virtuosity, his mad fluency reminiscent of Sonny Rollins. So it's not surprising that Mahanthappa and his Moveable Mirror trio with drummer Dave King (the Bad Plus) and bassist Eric Revis will interpret Rollins's 1958 Blue Note LP, A Night at the Village Vanguard, as well as his own galvanizing and spiritual compositions. Mahanthappa has played with Jack DeJohnette, Vijay Iyer, and Steve Lehman, among others, so uou know he's the real deal. This is destined to be one of the best Jazz Alley bookings of 2019. (Jazz Alley, 7:30 pm, \$16.) DAVE SEGAL



### **Nick Murphy**

ROCK/POP Now performing under his given name after years as Chet Faker, Nick Murphy has a new album out. And boy is he ready to tour supporting it. Run Fast Sleep Naked wasn't as warmly received as the stuff under his now-retired moniker Chet Faker was a hit more bedroomu Chet Faker was an Australian dude trying his hand at both soul and electronica. Chet Faker covered "No Diggity." This new non-Chet era of Murphy's career often finds him singing over an orchestra with a strange, faux Americana earnestness about him. In any case, go forth and cross your fingers he'll hit you with some "Birthday Card" at his live performance. (Neptune Theatre, 8 pm, all ages, \$30/\$89.) **JASMYNE KEIMIG** 

#### **FRI JUNE 14**

## **Eldridge Gravy & the Court** Supreme, Black Cherry Crush, High Pulp

FUNK/REGGAE High Pulp have been building a low-key buzz for a minute—but for no good reason, I hadn't listened to them until this month. My bad. The Seattle 10-piece generate complicated, feel-great instrumentals that should please fans of early Santana, folks into expansive funk and fusion, and jam-band aficionados. High Pulp's party music inspires communal, celebratory sensations without the sweaty-handed corniness that often accompanies this approach. A couple of listens to their 2018 album Bad Juice will convince you they're one of the most interesting acts in town. It makes perfect sense that High Pulp are opening for fellow big-band party-starters Eldridge Gravy. (Chop Suey, 8 pm, \$15.) DAVE SEGAL

#### The Heavy

FUNK/REGGAE You know the Heavy from their 2006 single "How You Like Me Now?" Even though it only peaked at No. 122 on the Billboard 200, that track was tapped everywhere-commercials (Kia Sorento SUV), films and trailers and closing credits (The Transporter Refueled, Horrible Bosses, The Fighter), video games (Borderlands 2, Forza Horizon 2), TV shows (Community, Suits), TV theme songs (Intentional Talk on MLB Network), and sporting events (it's Radim Vrbata's personalized goal song, and it plays whenever he scores during Vancouver Canucks home games). The UK group hasn't strayed far from making hard-ass-shaking rock heavily dosed with crunchy funk and neo-soul, and they land in town behind their fifth and latest album full of it, Sons. (Neumos, 8 pm, sold out.) LEILANI POLK

#### **SAT JUNE 15**

## The Middle Ages, Seablite, **Neutrals**

ROCK/POP While my "editorial focus" IS on tonight's kick-ass bill, I gotta holler: If you ain't been down to Southgate Roller Rink yet, turn up early and get an hour of skating in. Cool? Okay, I can't simplify headliner Seablite's SOUND by calling them anything obvious, 'cause they play a



RIVER 6/21 CHERRY POPIN' DADDIES 6/22 CHARLY BLISS 6/23 LION BABE 6/24 CEREMONY / SHEER MAG 6/25

SINKANE@THETRACTOR6/26 JAMILA WOODS6/27 THEOCEAN BLUE 6/28 CAYUCAS@COLUMBIA CITY THEATER 6/29 AMONG AUTHORS 6/30 IVY SOLE, BLOSSOM, PARISALEXA 7/5 CULTURE ABUSE 7/6 THE ARISTOCRATS

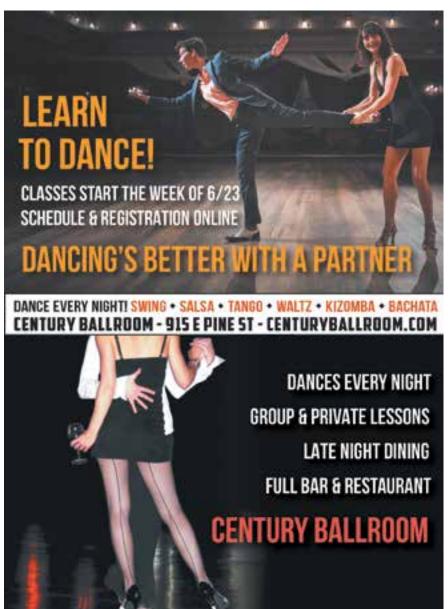
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## THINGS TO DO → Music



kind of melodic, thickly atmospheric sweetness framed by delicate paisley-pop nods and sideswiped by a slight shoegaze fixation. Um, they're just cool—so, kids, dose accordingly. Also kicking up dust tonight will be local punks Middle Ages and, from Oakland, Neutrals, a smart UK-style punk group. (Southgate Roller Rink, 9 pm, \$10.)

## Yungblud, Saint PHNX

ROCK/POP If I were walking down the street in 2007 and someone was blasting Yungblud's "Loner" out of their car, I wouldn't have batted an eye. The artist otherwise known as Dominic Harrison sounds so ska-meets-suburban-bratfrom-the-UK that he almost transcends time. And before you ask, yes, Yungblud does love Arctic Monkeys. Despite the rather exhausting image he puts out, Yungblud fancies himself a socially conscious singer. A cut off his latest studio album, 21st Century, called "Machine Gun (F\*\*k the NRA)" is a comment on his feelings about gun culture in the US. He swings mainstream pop as well, appearing on "11 Minutes" alongside trashy pop mainstay Halsey and Travis Barker (?). Yungblud is supported by Glaswegian fraternal pop duo Saint PHNX. (Neumos, 8 pm, all ages, \$18/\$22 (sold out).) JASMYNE KEIMIG

#### **MON JUNE 17**

#### Ulver

METAL/PUNK With fans such as cult director Harmony Korine and Krautrocksampler/Japrocksampler author Julian Cope, Norwegian experimentalists Ulver should command your attention. Oddly, my only encounters with leader Kristoffer Rygg and company have come through collaborations with Sunn O))) and Æthenor. But those link-ups give you an idea of the profound heaviness and doom in which Ulver have been trafficking over the last 26 years. They've been anything but monolithic in their discography, embracing murky shoegaze, black metal, diaphanous folk, dark ambient, and industrial. Hell, Ulver even did a shockingly brilliant album (Childhood's End) boasting covers of 1960s psych-rock songs by 13th Floor Elevators, Electric Prunes, and others. Ulver's latest full-length, Drone Activity, features said drones in all their morbid majesty. It'd be awesome if they dosed

us for two hours with this spacey nightmare fuel at the Showbox. (The Showbox, 8 pm, all ages, \$35/\$40.) **DAVE SEGAL** 

#### **JUNE 18-20**

### **Empire of the Sun**

**ELECTRONIC** When Empire of the Sun made their US debut with 2008's Walking on a Dream, I thought they were a joke band-like, quasi-earnest in the vein of Gil Mantera's Party Dream, where taking themselves super seriously and being outrageously flamboyant with it is a part of the shtick. Nope. Luke Steele and Nick Littlemore are earnest-earnest Aussies making catchy-great synth pop, the former often decked out in some of the most fantastic costumery and head-dressery you'll find outside of drag. This tour celebrates the 10th anniversary special-edition vinyl reissue of the aforementioned LP and its platinum-certified title track. (The Showbox, 9 pm, all ages, \$42/\$45 (sold out).) LEILANI POLK

#### **WED JUNE 19**

## **Lowdown Brass Band, Lucky** Brown and the S.G.s

SOUL/R&B Lowdown Brass Band deliver a fine and fiery fusion of hip-hop and frontline brass band music-built on trumpets, trombones, sax, drums, and sousaphone acting as bass, with a vocalist and MC, too. According to their bio, the 10-piece ensemble "deftly synthesizes the gritty sounds of Chicago with the high energy street beat of the Crescent City." They also draw on elements of ska, Latin music, funk, and soul; have recorded with Roy Ayers (a revival of "Everybody Loves the Sunshine" on their 2014 LP); and are currently on the road behind 2018's LowDown Breaks, which combines hip-hop breaks with live soul samples and deep cut instrumental grooves, and includes originals as well as covers, among them. A Tribe Called Quest's "Can I Kick It?" (Sunset Tavern, 8 pm, \$10.) LEILANI POLK

StrangerThingsToDo.com

## Short List

Alice Smith

Triple Door, June 7–8, 8 pm, all ages, \$40-\$50

Aly & AJ, Armors, Jena Rose

Neptune Theatre, Wed June 19, 8 pm, all ages, \$24-\$50

Amanda Palmer Paramount Theatre. Fri June 7, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$25-\$35

Big Sam's Funky Nation, 45th St Brass

Tractor Tavern, Thurs June 6, 9 pm, \$18

Chromatics, Desire, In Mirrors

The Showbox, Fri June 7, 9 pm. \$36 (sold out)

Chromeo with a Live Band, Neil Francis Showbox Sodo, Sat June 8, 9 pm, all ages,

Connan Mockasin, Molly Lewis Crocodile, Tues June 11, 7 pm, all ages, \$20

\$30-\$120

Neptune Theatre, June 9-10, 8 pm, all ages, \$38 Nectar & The PBJ Pres-

Cowboy Junkies

ent: Grateful Bluegrass Boys High Dive, Fri June 14,

8:30 pm, \$10/\$15 Duff McKagan, Shooter

**Jennings** The Showhox Sun

June 16, 8 pm, all ages, \$35/\$40 Indigo Girls, Sera

Cahoone Woodland Park Zon. Sun June 16, 6 pm, all ages,

\$43 (sold out) John Mayall Band with Carolyn Wonderland, Greg Rzab and Jay

Davenport Jazz Alley, June 13-16, all ages, \$37

Kelly Willis, Andrea von Kampen Triple Door Thurs June 6, 7:30 pm, all ages,

\$25-\$32 Le Butcherettes, Stars At Night, Chrome Lakes Crocodile, Sun, June 9,

8 pm, \$16-\$18

Lewis Capaldi, Sam Fischer

Neptune Theatre, Sat June 8, 8:30 pm, all ages, \$20/\$25

Ludovico Einaudi McCaw Hall, Tues June 18, 7:30 pm, \$47-\$250

MONO, Emma Ruth Rundle

Neumos, Sat June 8, 7 pm, \$18/\$20

Mudhoney, The Fucking Eagles, The Drove McMenamins Flks Temple, Fri June 14, 8 pm, all ages, \$20 (sold out)

Negative Press Project, Smack Talk, Evan Flory-Barnes

Seamonster Lounge, Wed June 12, 10 pm, free

Patty Griffin Neptune Theatre, Sat June 15, 8 pm, all ages, \$46/\$48 (sold out)

Pile. State Champion.

Guests Vera Project, Fri June 7, 7 pm, all ages, \$13/\$15

Research: Mike Servito B2B Magda Kremwerk, Thurs June 6. 9 pm, \$12

Rob Thomas, Abby Anderson

Chateau Ste. Michelle, Thurs June 13, 7 pm, \$70/\$90 (sold out)

Royal Thunder, Dead Now, Noise-A-Tron Highline, Fri June 7, 9 pm,

\$12/\$15 Smith-McElroy Duo

Chapel Performance Space, Thurs June 6, 8 pm, all ages, \$5-\$15

SOAK., Fenne Lily Barboza, Wed June 12, 7 pm, \$14/\$16

Third Eye Blind, Jimmy Eat World, Ra Ra Riot WaMu Theater, Wed June 19, 7 pm, all ages, \$47-\$1000

Train, Goo Goo Dolls, Allen Stone

White River Amphitheatre, Fri June 7, 7 pm, all ages, \$30-\$485

Wynonna and The Big

Tulalip Resort Casino, Sat June 8, 8 pm, \$65-\$75

## **Early Warnings**

COMMON Moore Theatre, Sun July 14, 8 pm, \$35-\$188

DAVID CROSBY AND FRIENDS Neptune Theatre, Sat Aug 31, 8 pm, \$57-\$227

BON IVER, SHARON VAN ETTEN Gorge Amphitheatre, Fri Sept 6, 7 pm, \$36-\$335

TYCHO, POOLSIDE Paramount Theatre, Sun Sept 8, 7:30 pm, \$36-\$46

PENTAGON Moore Theatre, Tues Sept 10, 8 pm, \$43-\$140

PURPLE MOUNTAINS Neptune Theatre, Fri Sept 13, 9 pm, \$24

THE ORIGINAL MISFITS White River Amphitheatre, Sat Sept 14, 6:30 pm, \$60-\$265

ALICE IN CHAINS WaMu Theater, Fri Sept 20, 8 pm, \$62

HAYDEN JAMES Neumos, Sat Sept 21, 8 pm, \$20/\$25

OF MONSTERS AND MEN WaMu Theater, Thurs Sept 26, 8 pm, \$46-\$199

MORRISSEY, INTERPOL WaMu Theater, Tues Oct 1, 7:30 pm, \$45-\$175

LOGIC, J.I.D., YBN CORDAE WaMu Theater, Tues Oct 8, 7:30 pm, \$52-\$247

SID SRIRAM Neptune Theatre, Fri Oct 11, 9 pm, \$21/\$99

BABYMETAL, THE HU Paramount Theatre, Wed Oct 16, 8 pm, \$56-\$317

**CAAMP, BY AND BY** The Showbox, Thurs Oct 24, 8:30 pm, \$26/\$28

TYLER CHILDERS, COURTNEY MARIE ANDREWS Paramount Theatre, Fri Oct 25, 8 pm, \$27-\$100

MARIKA HACKMAN Neumos, Fri Nov 1, 7 pm, \$15/\$18

X AMBASSADORS Showbox Sodo, Sun Nov 17, 7:30 pm, \$33/\$38

ANGEL OLSEN Moore Theatre, Wed Dec 11, 8 pm, \$30/\$34

## Thurs 6/6

LIVE MUSIC

BLUE MOON TAVERN Laser Beam, Floral Tattoo, The ants, 9 pm, \$8

A CAFE RACER Afterlife Gift ase, 8–11 pm, free

Reader, Projections On A Wall, 9 pm, \$10

THE FUNHOUSE Plaguebringe Aphelion, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

HIGHLINE Dosenöffner Mechanical Plague, Pink Void, Masaaki Masao, Glacial, 8 pm, \$10

LUCKY LIQUOR Hominy Hash Zauso, Collin Curry, 9 pm, \$5

**⚠ MAXIMILIEN** Rouge French Cabaret!, 5-7:30 pm, free

NECTAR Long Beach Dub All-Stars, The Aggrolites, Tomorrow's Bad Seeds, 8 pm, \$20/\$26

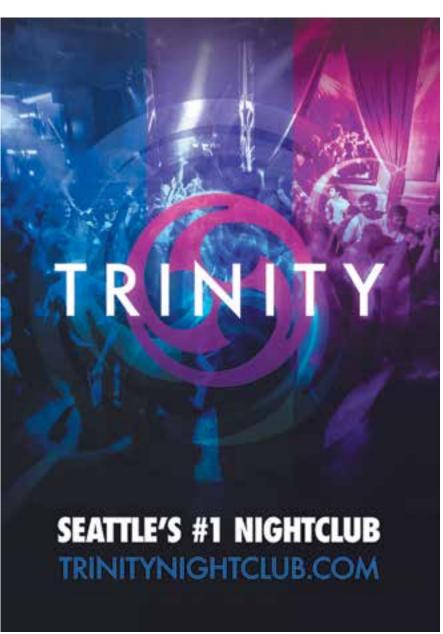
A NEPTUNE THEATRE Zoë Keating, 8 pm, \$28

Vesperteen, 8 pm, \$16/\$18 RENDEZVOUS Intrinsic Factor,

Quincu Einsten, 6:30 pm, \$10 RENDEZVOUS Intrinsic Factor, Quincy Einsten, Tiger Blonde, 6:30 pm, \$10

SUNSET TAVERN Stoffel, The ful, Night Lunch, 8 pm, \$10









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MON-THU 5PM-2AM FRI-SUN 3PM-2AM PONYSEATTLE



## THINGS TO DO → Music

## CLASSICAL/ OPERA

★ BENAROYA HALL Holst's The

EDMONDS COMMUNITY **COLLEGE** Considering Matthew Shepard, 7:30–9:30 pm, \$18–\$21

#### LD

Q NIGHTCLUB Field Trip 75: Pete Tong, 9 pm-2 am, \$10

#### JAZZ

Phares, Bishop, Thomas, Anschell, 7:30–10 pm, \$17

## Fri 6/7

#### LIVE MUSIC ALMA MATER TACOMA Spirit

Daze, 8 pm, \$8/\$10 BARBOZA Perry Porter, LIV

BLUE MOON TAVERN Another Perfect Crime, Rat Queen,

Escane Train 8 nm \$8

**CENTRAL SALOON** Slow Caves Mighty, Kilcid Band, 8 pm, \$8 CONOR BYRNE Brainard. The Winter Shakers, Cold Comfort, 9 pm, \$8

CROCODILE Floater, 8 pm. \$15 THE FUNHOUSE Four Lights. Three Fingers, Bobby's Oar, Heck 'es, 9:30 pm, \$6/\$8

HARD ROCK CAFE Grunge Nite with Juliet Tango, Mister Master, Beast Folk, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

HIGH DIVE Crack Sabbath

HIGHLINE Royal Thunder, Dead Now, Noise-A-Tron, 9 pm, \$12/\$15 LUCKY LIQUOR The Aimlows,

Milhous, Snow White and the Baby Eaters, Bobcat, 8:30 pm, \$7

NECTAR Kranium, Jada Kingdom, Zion Gate Sound (Selecta Element), 9 pm, \$20-\$35

A NEUMOS Bear's Den,

8 nm \$20 PARLIAMENT TAVERN Ryan Barber & the Riches, Leah T, Pete

Marshall, 7 pm, \$7

A SHOWBOX SODO JOHNNYSWIM, 8 pm, \$31/\$33

SLIM'S LAST CHANCE CHILI SHACK AND WATERING HOLE

SUNSET TAVERN St Paul De

THE TASTING ROOM Leifu

TIM'S TAVERN Dream Logic, Jakob Singer & the Outsiders, The Arnolds, Luke Hogan, 7 pm, \$8

TRACTOR TAVERN The Best 80's Party Ever (So Far) 8th Anniversaru 9 nm \$15

VICTORY LOUNGE Medeiin. 8:30 pm, \$6

## CLASSICAL/ Opera

 BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN NW Firelight Chorale Presents For the Love of Ireland: Songs

from the Emerald Isle and Its Celtic Neighbors., 7:30 pm,

A BENAROYA HALL The Orchestra: M is for Music, \$12

★ BENAROYA HALL [untitled] 3, O CHAPEL PERFORMANCE

pm, \$5-\$15

GERLICH THEATER UW

Symphony and Combined UW Choirs: Britten, War Requiem, Op. 66, 7:30 pm, \$15

BAR SUE SHUFFLE & REPEAT | 90's & 00's Dance Party, 10 pm–2 am, free

KREMWERK Shook: Commodo,

★ Q NIGHTCLUB Pop Secret:

SUBSTATION Bass Therapy 9 pm-2 am, \$10/\$15

#### JAZZ

A THE SLAB Secret Jazz Club

★ TRIPLE DOOR Alice Smith

A TULA'S Kareem Kandi artet, 7:30-10:30 pm, \$22

#### DANCE

BLACK LODGE She-Rave and the Princesses of PLUR!, 7 pm

## Sat 6/8

#### LIVE MUSIC

★ BLUE MOON TAVERN Pride at the Blue Moon: Creature Hole, Seaside Tryst, After Party, 9 pm, \$10

CENTRAL SALOON Stars at Night, Voodoo Death Gun, ArtrA, BES, 8 pm, \$10 **CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE** Dannu

Newcomb and the Sugarn Rosso Viti, Love and Fury, CROCODILE Duke Evers

HIGH DIVE Andonimus & The

Lock'd Pocket, Decision "DC" Israel, Kristen Palmer, Scott Clay, DJ Quanzimoto, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

O HOLLOW EARTH RADIO Rainwater, Talktin & Easy, Red Ribbon, 8–11 pm, \$5–\$15

NECTAR Clinton Fearon & Boogie Brown Band, Rebel Lion, 8 pm, \$13-\$18

OBELISCO ESTATE TASTING ROOM AT APPLE FARM VILLAGE Obelisco Wine & Live

Music with Kurt Lindsay

**PARLIAMENT TAVERN** The

THE PLAID PIG LIVE MUSIC LOUNGE Gemini I Mania, 7 pm, \$10

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Siggie The Vintage Man, Tripp Rezac & the Foolish Pride, 8 pm, \$8

SLIM'S LAST CHANCE CHILI Rebels of Fortune, Into the Cold

Ball Bag, 9 pm SUNSET TAVERN Kingdo of the Holy Sun, Moon Darling, Frond, 9 pm, \$10

TIM'S TAVERN Cryptamnesia, Amish Warfare, Two Headed Crow. Monstress. 8 pm. \$10

★ TRACTOR TAVERN New Juicifer IPA Launch Party,

TRACTOR TAVERN Spirit Award, The Grizzle Leches, 8 pm, \$12

### ROCK/POP

CONOR BYRNE Coach Phillips Apples with Moya, Black Ends, 8 pm-12 am, \$8

#### .ASSICAL/ CLASSI OPERA

BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN

W Factor First LUTHEF NW Firelight Chorale Presents For the Love of Ireland: Songs from the Emerald Isle and Its Celtic Neighbors., 7:30 pm, \$12-\$22

BENAROYA HALL The
Orchestra: M is for Music, \$12

BENAROYA HALL "On the Wings of the Wind": Borodin's "Prince Igor", 2 pm, \$20/\$30

★ BENAROYA HALL Holst's The TOWN HALL Seattle Peace

Chorus Presents Canto General: 80th Anniversary, 7:30 pm

#### DJ

RE-BAR DISTRIKT Metamorphoses Fundraiser, 9 pm-4 am, \$12 STILL LIQUOR Sayword

W HOTEL W DJ: Mike Illvester, ate Chuck 9:30 pm. free

#### JAZZ

CHAPEL PERFORMANCE

★ A TRIPLE DOOR Alice Smith.

#### DANCE

PB KITCHEN AT POLISH HOME ASSOCIATION Swing It Saturday with Julian

Sun 6/9

LIVE MUSIC

CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE

School of Rock Performs The Who, 5 pm, \$10/\$12

A CROCODILE School of Rock

Seattle Performs: Electric Light Orchestra, 1:30 pm, \$12

CROCODILE Le Butcherettes

Stars At Night, Chrome Lakes, 8 pm, \$16/\$18

EL CORAZON Flotsam and

Jetsam, Dead By Wednesday, Coven 669, 7:30 pm, \$11-\$25

THE FUNHOUSE Matamoska!

Lost Aliens, 8:30 pm, \$8/\$10

LUCKY LIQUOR Origami Angel,

Stars Hollow, Bitch Fits, Dusty Cubby, 8 pm, \$5

**★ ②** NEPTUNE THEATRE

Doomsquad, 8 pm, \$17/\$19

THE SHOWBOX KAZKA,

SUBSTATION Morfin, Infernal

TRACTOR TAVERN Underwood

Stables Presents: Jon Langford,

★ BENAROYA HALL Holst's The Planets, \$22–\$122

EASTLAKE PERFORMING

NORDIC MUSEUM Mostly

Sweden 4 nm \$25/\$30

June Edition, 2–10 pm

30–10:30 pm, \$17

DANCE

JAZZ

TIMBRE ROOM Sunday Mass:

A TRIPLE DOOR Romain Collin

BAR CIUDAD Femme Day Party: Summer Kickoff!, 3–9 pm, \$5

MONKEY LOFT Day Party with Oona Dahl, 2-8 pm, \$20/\$25

2-4 pm, \$10-\$20

La

Realm, Scmutzhund, 8 pm

Michael Maker and the Sli

Nails, Ian Moore, 8 pm, \$15

CLASSICAL/

**★ NEUMOS** Operators,

HIGH DIVE Fences, 7 pm,

BARBOZA Winnetka Bowling League, 8 pm, \$11/\$13

EL CORAZON Gloryha MacDonough's SwingSet. Aether Realm, Zero Down, 7:30 pm, \$18/\$22 7:30-11:30 pm. \$15

THE FUNHOUSE Nathan Kalish and the Lastcallers, 8:30 pm, \$6/\$8

**Tues 6/11** 

LIVE MUSIC

**BELLTOWN YACHT CLUB** The

BLACK LODGE Amygdala,

CHOP SUEY Standards, Yufi64, Ryan Kyungsoo Chin, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

Valtiel, Fleurs Mortes, Nicodxmvs, 8 pm, \$10

HIGH DIVE Kate Dinsmore, SUS, DASH, Reality Check, 8 pm, \$5/\$8

★ KEXP NPR Music's Tiny Desk Contest on the Road, 7–11 pm, \$10

SUNSET TAVERN The Midnight Empties, Dragontail Peak, Long Day On Mars, 8 pm, \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN Katie Wade Dakota Poorman, Knathan Ryan, 8 pm, \$10

★ (A) TRIPLE DOOR Rickie Lee

#### JAZZ

**▲ JAZZ ALLEY** The Cookers, 7:30 pm, \$31

NORTH CITY BISTRO Ben osenblum Trio, 7-9 pm, \$10

THE ROYAL ROOM Lucas Winters Quintet, 7 pm, free

#### DANCE

CHINA HARBOR Swing It Seattle Social Dance, 8:15-11 pm, \$9

## Wed 6/12

#### LIVE MUSIC

CHOP SUEY Maria Plays All The Instruments, Surething!, 1-800, Morrissey's Ego, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

EL CORAZON Buckcherry. Joyous Wolf, The Jet City Fix, 8 pm, \$25/\$30

HIGH DIVE Irene Peña Music Presents: Bad Mother Nature, Juliet Tango, Rachelle DeBelle & The Jamfest Miracles, Matt Bentley, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

NECTAR LED AT LEEDS, 8 pm, \$10-\$16

SUBSTATION RGK, Group Photos, Meanderthals, CFCQ,

SUNSET TAVERN Kiing, Graveyard Club, Distant Station, 8 nm \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN Dirty Rugs, [Brackets], Biblioteka, 8 pm, \$8

★ TRIPLE DOOR Rickie Lee

#### CLASSICAL/ OPERA

\* A I AKE CITY MENNONITE CHURCH Rain City Symphony Spring Concert, 7:30 pm, free

#### JAZZ

TRIPLE DOOR MQ STAGE Frank

## Mon 6/10

#### LIVE MUSIC

THE COLLECTIVE LVDY,

THE FUNHOUSE Jonah Matranga, Maklak, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$15

\* 

NEPTUNE THEATRE TRACTOR TAVERN Luluc, 8 pm, \$12

#### JAZZ

RENDEZVOUS Ben Rosenblum

TRIPLE DOOR Louis York he Shindellas, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$28

## Thurs 6/13

### LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Sebastian and the Deep Blue, My Cartoon Heart, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

**CHOP SUEY Group** Photos, Black Ends, Fluung, Meanderthals, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

CONOR BYRNE Kasey Anderson, Kenny Roby, Ethan Anderson, 8 pm, \$8

**⚠ EL CORAZON** TTNG, The Kraken Quartet, Curse League, 7 pm, \$17/\$20

r 🔕 JAZZ ALLEY John Mayall

Band with Carolyn Wonderland Greg Rzab and Jay Davenport, \$37

LO-FI Silver & Gold, Tiger Rider, m Your Dov Neighbors, 8 pm, \$8

LUCKY LIQUOR Ona Snop, Tax Evader, Disease, 9 pm, \$5 NECTAR Yak Attack, Swindler,

THE ROYAL ROOM Devin Sinha, Guests, 7:30 pm, \$8

8 pm, \$10-\$16

SEAMONSTER LOUNGE Eric Patterson Band, Proud and Nasty Jam Session, 8-11:30 pm, free

THE SHOWBOX Rich the Kid. Quando Rondo, Yung Bino, 83 Babies, 8 pm, \$30/\$32

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB The Woodworks, Mojo Riot, 7 pm. \$8 **3** SONIC BOOM RECORDS

Julia Shapiro In Store 7:30 pm, free SUNSET TAVERN The Lightweight Champs, Linda From Work, Two Shadows, 8 pm, \$10

TRACTOR TAVERN Tekla Waterfield, Tyler Edwards, Wish Mission, 8 pm

♠ TRIPLE DOOR GoodNight Suzie, The W Lovers, 7:30 pm, \$25

TRIPLE DOOR MQ STAGE Swing 3PO, 5 pm, fre

#### CLASSICAL/ **OPERA**

BENAROYA HALL Strauss Till Eulenspiegel, \$22-\$122

MEYDENBAUER CENTER A Second, 7:30-9:30 pm, \$10-\$20

#### DJ

Q NIGHTCLUB Field Trip 76: Yolanda Be Cool, 9 pm-2 am, \$10

#### **JAZZ**

**© SEATTLE ART MUSEUM** Art Ellington Project, 5:30-7:30

## Fri 6/14

#### LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Little Wins, Scarlet

BELLTOWN YACHT CLUB Wild Powwers, Powers, Trash Fire, 9 pm

CONOR BYRNE The Cosmic Shuffle, Tommy the Animal, The Whags, 9 pm-12 am, \$8

DARRELL'S TAVERN Greenrive Thrillers, Kings of Cavalier, Grim Earth, Summoned By Giants, 9 pm, \$10

THE FUNHOUSE The Yes Masters, The Drolls, Bad Optics, 9:30 pm, \$6/\$8

HIGH DIVE Nector & The PR.I. Present: Grateful Bluegrass Boys, Guests, 8:30 pm, \$10/\$15

★ ② HOLLOW EARTH RADIO

Abbey Blackwell, The Zig Zag Lady, 8 pm, \$7-\$15

★ 🙆 JAZZ ALLEY John Mayall Band with Carolyn Wonderland, Greg Rzab and Jay Davenport,

NECTAR Daniel Pak, Sabyu 8 pm-2 am, \$13

NECTAR The Mighty Diamonds, Guests, 8 pm, \$17-\$21

THE ROYAL ROOM Lady A's Back Porch Blues, 7:30 pm, \$15 SUBSTATION OVER, Nox Novacula, Dead Spells, Nostalgist 8:30 nm \$12

★ SUNSET TAVERN Summe Cannibals, Blushh, Dreamdecay, 9 pm, \$12

**SUR** One Gun Shy, Voodoo Death Gun, Disciples Of Dissent, Nocturnal Mayhem,

TIM'S TAVERN Bitter Ex Lovers. Sabertooth, Faceless, Fuzz Droner, 7 pm, \$8

TRACTOR TAVERN Purple Mane, The George Michaels, 9 pm, \$12

8:30 nm \$12

## CLASSICAL/ OPERA

BENAROYA HALL Strauss Till

 BENAROYA HALL Puget ound Music Academy Showcase Recital, 7 pm. \$10/\$20

 BENAROYA HALL Ensign Symphony & Chorus: Hom 7:30 pm, \$18-\$38

A FIRST FREE METHODIST Concert V, 7:30 pm, \$15/\$20

KREMWERK Noise Complaint ft. Kill Frenzy & Bones, 10 pm-3 am, \$10/\$15

STILL LIQUOR Friday Night

#### **JAZZ**

**★ NORTHWEST FILM FORUM** Puget Soundtrack – Arrington d Dionyso's This Saxophone Kills Fascists presents 'Emergency Labyrinth,' 8–9:30 pm, \$16

THE TASTING ROOM Duende Libre, Frank Anderson 8-11 pm, free

#### DANCE

RE-BAR Bootie Seattle: Ladu Gaga & Queen vs. Everyone 10 pm-2 am, \$5/\$10

## Sat 6/15

#### LIVE MUSIC

**BARBOZA** The Mystery Lights Future Punx, 7 pm, \$12/\$14 CENTRAL SALOON Seattle New

Music Showcase, 7:30 pm, \$10 CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE pm, \$45-\$70

CROCODILE School of Rock Seattle Performs: Best of the '70s, 1:30 pm, \$12

THE CROCODILE BACK BAR **DARRELL'S TAVERN** Kids on Fire, Lucky Boys, Bondage Squad, 8 pm, \$10

EL CORAZON Rusholme Ruffians, The Drowning Man, Love Vigilantes She's Lost Control, 8 pm, \$15/\$20

HIGH DIVE Emo Dance Party vith the Emo G's, DJ Babu Var Beezly, and Emotional Distress, 9 pm, \$10

HUGO HOUSE Original Music Inspired by G. Willow Wilson's Ms Marvel, 7:30 pm, \$10

★ 🙆 JAZZ ALLEY John Mayall Band with Carolyn Wonderland Greg Rzab and Jay Davenport,

NECTAR Fellowship of the Wing. 8 nm \$20-\$26

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB GoFigure Album Release Party, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

**SUNSET TAVERN** I owlands

General Mojo's, Nick Foster, 9 pm, \$10 TIM'S TAVERN Rough Closeup

One Step From Everywhere, Flashback Nation, Wily Savage, 7 pm, \$7

TRACTOR TAVERN The Local Strangers, Sarah Gerritsen & the Shadow-Catchers 7 nm \$12

A VERA PROJECT Tim Atlas, Alec Shaw, Caspian Coberly, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

 WAMU THEATER Arsenal Efectivo, Legado 7, El De LaGuitarra, Fuerza, Regida, Los Hijos De Garza, Omar Ruiz, Lumar Perez, Herencia De Patrones, 8 pm, \$63

## CLASSICAL/

 BELLEVUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Brass Band Northv Celebration!, 7:30–9 pm, \$10

 BENAROYA HALL First Concerts: Meet the Violin, 9:30 am, 11 am, \$12

A BENAROYA HALL Northwest . Girlchoir: Journeys, 2 pm, \$15-\$28

BENAROYA HALL Strauss Till

 CHAPEL PERFORMANCE Orchestra Season Finale: Erin Gee's Mouthpieces & Saariaho's Aer, 8–10 pm, \$10–\$25

© GREEN LAKE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Ancora: In Her Own Words – A Legacy of Hope, 4–5:30 pm, \$20

A THE ROYAL ROOM The Frequency Ensemble, 4 pm, \$15/\$20

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL Medieval Women's Choir - A Feast for St. James, 8 pm,

TOWN HALL Seattle Girls Choir: All Choirs Spring Concert 12–2 pm, \$15/\$20

STILL LIQUOR Sayword

W HOTEL W DJ: Magnolia

★ BENAROYA HALL Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra,ÄîRay Charles: I Can't Stop Lovin' You, 7:30 nm. \$50

A TRIPLE DOOR BlueStreet z Voices, 8 pm, \$25/\$28 ⚠ TULA'S Greta Matassa

Quintet. 7:30-10:30 pm. \$22 • WASHINGTON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Torch Songs: Songs About Lo 7:30 pm, \$10-\$22

## Sun 6/16

#### LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Emily Brimlow 8 nm. \$15/\$17

CHOP SUEY Fantasy A, AK-47. CROCODILE YBN Cordae,

♠ THE CROCODILE BACK BAR Pizza Pultpit: Tommy the Animal, 7 pm, free

A EL CORAZON School Of Rock Bellevue: The Big 4 of Thrash Metal (Metallica, Sla Megadeth, Anthrax), 12:30 pm, \$12/\$15

HOTEL ALBATROSS MCQM 206 EP Release Party, 8 pm, \$8

★ 🏖 JAZZ ALLEY John Mayall Band with Carolyn Wonderland, Greg Rzab and Jay Davenport, \$37

THE KNIFE ROOM The Boozy Brunch and Variety Show, 12–2:30 pm, \$46–\$65

NECTAR Joe Doria's Over the Hill Party with OG McTuff, 8 pm, \$10-\$16

NEUMOS Zion's Gate 20th Anniversaru Partu. 6 pm. free

THE POCKET THEATER OPRS,

RENDEZVOUS Birthday Showcase with Lonely Together JAGA, DJ Bogi, 10 pm, \$15/\$20

★ THE ROYAL ROOM Stephanie Anne Johnson & The Highdogs, The Junebugs, 8 pm, \$10

THE SHOWBOX The Rock and Roll Playhouse: The Music of the Grateful Dead for Kids,

\* SUNSET TAVERN Hoop, Fell Runner, Baby Jessica, 8 pm, \$10 CLASSICAL/ OPERA

#### ★ BENAROYA HALL Steve Hackman's Harder, Better, Faster,

Stravinsku, 2 pm, \$30-\$70

## ★ LO-FI Mama's Thirsty: A

Queer Lady Hangout Pride Edition!, 8 pm, \$10 △ JAZZ ALLEY An Evening with

#### JAZZ

A FRYE ART MUSEUM Jazz in the City: Thomas Marriott, 2–4 pm, free

\* KIRKLAND PERFORMANCE CENTER Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra's Ray Charles: I Can't Stop Lovin' You, 2 pm, \$15-\$50

⚠ THE ROYAL ROOM Cascadia Big Band, 7:30 pm, free

TRIPLE DOOR An Evening with Raul Midón and Lionel Loueke, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$35

**A TULA'S** Dan Kramlich's

## Mon 6/17

#### LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA BLOXX, Hembres Warbly Jets, 6:30 pm, \$15 **CENTRAL SALOON** The Fmilus

⚠ THE FUNHOUSE Neckbeard Deathcamp, Theories, Dryad, 7:30 pm, \$13/\$15

SUNSET TAVERN Coach Phillips, Arthur James, I Wish I Was a Punk Band, 8 pm, \$10

#### JAZZ

**©** EDMONDS CENTER FOR

THE ARTS Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra,ÄiRay Charles: I Can't Stop Lovin' You, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$36

## **Tues 6/18**

#### **LIVE MUSIC**

(A) THE CROCODILE BACK BAR Tyler Hilton, 6:45 pm \$15-\$50

THE FUNHOUSE Heart Attack Man, Sincere Engineer, Rome Hero Foxes, 7 pm, \$12/\$14 HIGH DIVE Wrong Wau at The

Roundabout, Happy Heartbrea Sandi Fernandez & The Beacor Hill-Billes, Speak Easy, 8 pm, \$5/\$8 SUNSET TAVERN Verlaine.

Bougirlbou, Planetelex,

7:30 pm. \$10 TRACTOR TAVERN Modern Daze, Last Waves, The Early Warning, 9 pm, \$8

#### JAZZ

▲ JAZZ ALLEY An Evening with Kenny Garrett, 7:30 pm, \$31

⚠ TULA'S Matt Williams Quintet with Jay Thomas, 7:30-10 pm, \$15

#### DANCE

CHINA HARBOR Swing It

## Wed 6/19

**LIVE MUSIC** ALMA MATER TACOMA GoodLife Brewing Presents: G

Love, 6 pm, \$5 O COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Fat Nick & Shakewell 7 pm \$20-\$75

A FI CORAZON Young Nut ⚠ THE FUNHOUSE Rocksteady

LO-FI Machine Girl, 8 pm,

NECTAR Larry June, Oranj Goodman, 7 pm, \$20-\$26 **RENDEZVOUS** Kingsley, Abigail Neilson, Marjorie Nelch, 7 pm, \$8/\$10

SEAMONSTER LOUNGE Water 8-11:30 pm. free

VERMILLION The No

#### JAZZ

A THE ROYAL ROOM Broadway Showcase and Sing-Along with 32nd Street Singers,

TRIPLE DOOR MQ STAGE The Djangomatics, 5 pm, free

TULA'S Duende Libre.

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## THINGS TO DO → Film

## **21st-Century Mammy**

The real explanation for the simulation in the *Matrix* trilogy comes from an unexpected place.

#### BY CHARLES MUDEDE

et at the end of the second century of the current millennium, the Matrix trilogy (which is screening on back-to-back Wednesdays at the alcohol-and-eats-serving Central Cinema) is about a world that humans believe is real, but that is, in fact, a gigantic simulation operated by malevolent machines. The real world is an environmental nightmare (scorched sky, rubble everywhere, polluted water); the virtual world is an affluent capitalist city  $(great\,rest aurants\,and\,shops, night clubs, an$ autotopian infrastructure). Some humans. however, are not happy with the virtual world (called the Matrix). These individuals

Wed June 5, Central Cinema, 4 and 7 pm THE MATRIX RELOADED Wed June 12. Central Cinema, 4 and 7 pm

THE MATRIX REVOLUTIONS Wed June 19. Central Cinema, 4 and 7 pm

wake up in the real one, learn the truth, and become rebels.

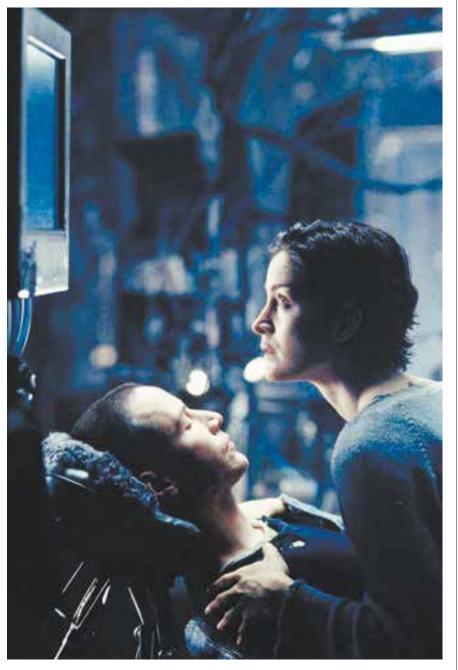
The leader of the resistance against the machines and their powerful, soul-sucking simulation is Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne). and the only hope he and

his rebels have of defeating the machines is a 21st-century messiah named Neo (Keanu Reeves). In the Matrix, Neo was a computer hacker; in the rebel city of Zion, he is the One. He is also in love with a rebel warrior named Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) She is the One's one. And the future of the human race, it turns out, entirely depends on Neo's love for Trinity

But why did the machines make the Matrix in the first place? According to Morpheus, the rebel leader, it's to keep humans docile while their bodies are harvested for energy. But this explanation, which is obviously wrong, exposes the shallowness of the rebel ideology. The courage of freedom fighters is so philosophically and spiritually feeble, they need a vivid image of exploitation to make sense of their material (the fine dining, fresh threads, and excellent nightlife in the Matrix) and existential (dreaded death) sacrifices.

But only a few moments of reflection reveal that there are certainly much easier (even nonbiological) ways to power the machines and their Machine City than transforming cumbersome human bodieswhich themselves demand a lot of energy-

Though the liberated humans do not want to find and spiritually confront the real reason behind the Matrix, it is made abundantly clear that they must by the most important and complex character in the movie, the Oracle (played by Gloria Foster in the trilogy's first two films and by Mary Alice in the third).



Neo (Keanu Reeves), the One, and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss), his No. 1.

The Oracle is a computer program that continually blocks the balance that the Matrix's maker, the Architect (Helmut Bakaitis), wants to establish. The Oracle is black American; the Architect is Central European—he even wears impeccably white suits. The Oracle chain-smokes, raises gifted children, and spends much of her time in the kitchen. She is, without a doubt, a 21st-century mammy.

But her very existence provides the explanation for the simulation. It is through her that we see not one but two illusions in the trilogy. There's the apparent illusion (the Matrix) and the fundamental illusion (the city of the freedom fighters, Zion). The former hides the latter, which in turn hides this truth from liberated humans: The machines cannot let go of their masters. For reasons that are spiritual (rather than practical), the machines are unable to imagine a world without their makers, humans. And so they developed a simulation that keeps the troublesome gods alive but also inactive This solution however proved to be unstable.

The Architect's mathematics failed to balance his system of active machines and slumbering masters again and again. It is from this imbalance that the Oracle emerged, and by way of instincts, seeks a machine/human arrangement that's truly revolutionary (or entirely breaks with the past): humans not as the humans from the past, and machines not as the machines from the past. The trilogy ends as a sun is rising over the virtual city.  $\blacksquare$ 

## Top Picks

#### JUNE 7-11



### 'The Terminator'

The best science-fiction films are found in the last three decades of the 20th century. The best decade of that period is without question the 1980s. And one of the highest achievements of 1980s-era sci-fi cinema is The Terminator. James Cameron's film about a robot that's sent from the future to kill the mother of a human rebel leader. True, the plot makes no sense. If the robot succeeds in killing the rebel leader's mother, it will not just be the death of the rebellion but also the creation of a completely different temporal trajectory that begins at the point that the rebel leader's mother's life is terminated. And how that path unfolds is completely unknown. Though its philosophy of time is weak, the motor that drives the film's story is powerful. There is not one dull moment in The Terminator, which made Arnold Schwarzenegger a household name. (Central Cinema, \$2-\$10.) CHARLES MUDEDE

#### **JUNE 7-13**

## 'General Magic'

If you scan the past, you'll find ideas that were once very pregnant with the future but for some reason or another miscarried. General Magic, a 1990s Silicon Valley start-up that spun off from Apple, had an idea that suffered this kind of misfortune. Its freethinking commie founders envisioned a technology that's easily recognizable to the inhabitants of the second decade of the 21st century as a smartphone, which is based on Apple's iPhone, which entered the market in 2007. This kind of phone, which General Magic called a Pocket Crystal, is now universal. This documentary shows why we do not associate smartphones with General Magic but with Apple. (Grand Illusion, \$10.) CHARLES MUDEDE

#### **OPENING FRI JUNE 14**



#### 'The Dead Don't Die'

The cast list alone says The Dead Don't Die could be a winner: Bill Murray, Adam Driver, Selena Gomez, Chloë Sevigny, Steve Buscemi, RZA, Tilda Swinton, Tom Waits, Danny Glover, and Rosie Perez, among others. Also, it's a Jim Jarmusch film, and whether or not you dig his recent work (that fine Stooges doc, Gimme Danger; Paterson, about a poet bus driver and his country-music-star-aspiring wife; vampire film Only Lovers Left Alive), you gotta admit, dude knows how to tell a storu. While the zombie genre might seem exhausted, I bet his take on a zom-com will be a good one. It starts in a small

## THINGS TO DO → Film

Podunk town where a police "force" (led by Murray and backed up by Driver and Sevigny) is forced to combat a sudden zombie invasion. I'm in it for Swinton as a coroner with Samurai-sword-wielding chops. (Various locations.) LEILANI POLK

#### **JUNE 14-18**

## 'Raising Arizona'

What's worse than when your freeloading, troublemaking, fresh-from-breaking-out-ofprison friends show up to crash on your couch and overstay their welcome? When they show up right as you're in the midst of pulling off a baby heist with your one true (barren) love, with whom you can't adopt because you're a convicted con, but whom you'd do absolutely anything for, including kidnapping one of the quintuplets of a local furniture magnate so the two of you can raise him as your own. Talk about bad timing. No one has worn a panty (hose) on his face with quite as much country-store-robbing grace as Nicolas Cage, and no one fake-cries with such cute gusto as Holly Hunter. Raising Arizona is one of my all-time favorites from the Coen brothers canon, right up there with Fargo and The Big Lebowski. It's a true comedu classic. (Central Cinema, \$5-\$10.) LEILANI POLK

MORE

StrangerThingsToDo.com

## Short List

Asako I & II Northwest Film Forum. June 8-13, \$12

The Farewell: SIFF Closing Night Gala SIFF Cinema Egyptian, Sun June 9, 6 pm, \$25/\$75

#### Halston

AMC Pacific Place & SIFF Cinema Uptown, June 7 & 9, \$15

House of Hummingbird SIFF Cinema Uptown, June 7-8, \$11/\$15

House of My Fathers AMC Pacific Plac Thurs June 6, 9:30 pm

I Do Not Care If We Go Down in History as Barbarians SIFF Cinema Egyptian &

Uptown, June 6 & 9, \$15 International Falls SIFF Cinema Uptown,

The Legend of the Stardust Brothers SIFF Cinema Uptown, Thurs June 6, 9:30 pm,

June 6-7, \$11

#### Memory - Origins of 'Alien'

SIFF Cinema Egyptian, Sat June 8, 7 pm, \$15

#### Men in Black: International

Wide release, opening Fri June 14

## PrOn 4 Freakz

Northwest Film Forum, Sat June 15, \$5-\$25 **Puget Soundtrack:** 

#### Arrington de Dionyso Northwest Film Forum

Fri June 14, 8 pm. \$16

#### The Raft

Northwest Film Forum, June 15-19, \$12

#### Raiders of the Lost Ark Central Cinema, June 14-18, \$5-\$10

Seattle International Film Festival

## Various locations

through June 9

#### Wild & Scenic Film Festival

SIFF Cinema Egyptian, Tues June 18 5:30 nm \$35/\$45

#### Yesterday

SIFF Cinema Uptown, Sun June 9, 6 pm, \$15

## **Early Warnings**

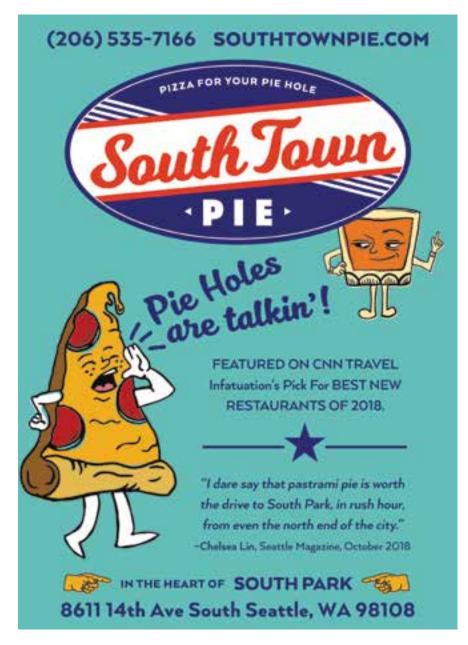
TOY STORY 4 Wide release, opening Fri June 21

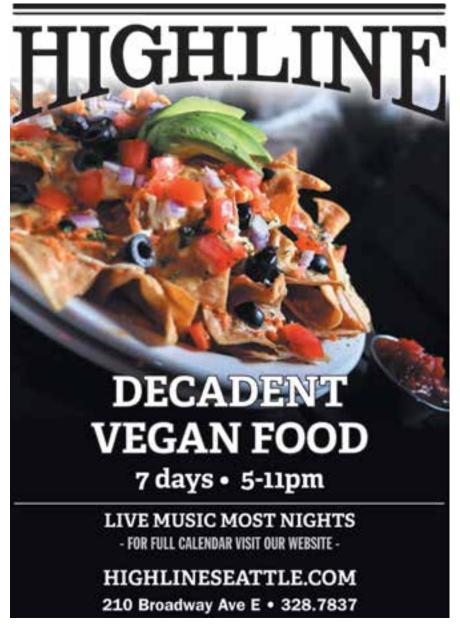














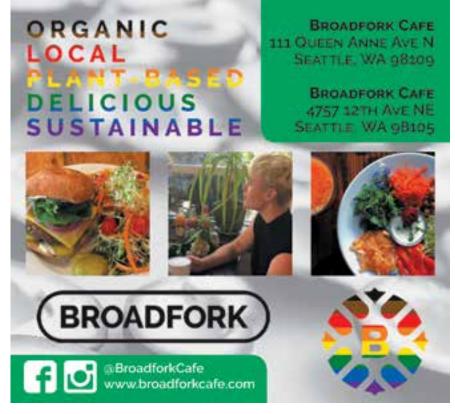


## **SAVE YOUR**



# (NIGHT) LIFE

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## Sake to the North

Mutsuko Soma opens Hannyatou, a sake bar in Fremont next to her successful Kamonegi.

BY LESTER BLACK



Chef Mutsuko Soma shows off her sake knowledge in her new Fremont venture Hannyatou.

t was after drinking a glass of aged sake that tasted like Spanish wine and right around when chef Mutsuko Soma handed me the fermented remnants of a jalapeño cheddar-cheese bagel that I started to think calling her latest Fremont. venture a sake bar didn't quite work.

A laboratory of weirdly delicious ideas? A church to eccentric fermentation? "Sake

HANNYATOU 206-294-4104

bar" just seemed too reductive for Soma's follow-up to Kamonegi, her wildly popular soba restaurant next

door. Hannyatou has the trappings of a sake bar—a long list of expertly curated sakes, a 20-seat dining room that's 21 and over, an apropos name ("hannyatou" translates to "wisdom water," an old euphemism that Japanese monks supposedly used for sake). But food intentionally plays as big a role as sake.

"I think living in the Pacific Northwest, Seattle people should drink more sake," Soma  $recently \, told \, me. \, ``Compared \, to \, wine, almost$ all sake is food-friendly. You can [drink sake] with stinky foods, with weird foods... stinky fish, squid. Wine fights a lot, sake doesn't."

Hannyatou is like a research facility for small plates of Soma's wildest ideas, which won her a spot on Food & Wine's list of best new chefs of 2019. Soma excels at combining her obsessive attention to craft with her wild imagination. Eater's Bill Addison mentioned her "unorthodox but brilliant combinations" when he named Kamonegi among the 18 best new restaurants in America. The menu at Hannyatou includes seafood dishes like Hama Hama ovsters served with homemade vinaigrettes (\$2.50 each) and asparagus with sea scallops (\$9), as well as some of Soma's more unusual ideas: ice cream made with sake sediment (\$8) and one of the strangest things I have ever eaten—the fermented remnants of a jalapeño cheese bagel that was turned into miso.

Soma ground up the bagels with koji (a Japanese fungus) and let the mixture sit in a warm place for four weeks. The deliciously weird result is a brownish liquid that resembles miso but tastes just like a jalapeño cheese bagel, and it's served with salmon that's also been cured in koji (\$9).

And then there's the sake, a curious and delicate selection curated by Soma and her  $business\,partner\,Russell\,King.\,I\,asked\,Soma$ to put together a flight of sakes for me, and  $after just three \, cups, I \, realized \, I \, knew \, almost$ nothing about Japan's staple alcohol.

I started with Kinka from Japanese brewery Tedorigawa; it was like the essence of fresh fruit encapsulated in a glass with notes of green apple in a creamy soft mouthfeel. Next was a cloudy cup of Junmai Nigori from Nakao Brewery that had a complex brown-rice flavor mixed with notes of ripe melon and coconut. Delicious. Finally, I tried a three-year-old Heirloom Yamahai Genshu from the Tamagawa brewery. Yamahai is a traditional style of sake brewing where natural yeast infects the rice, and the brewer (the toii) performs minimal post-processing. The result is a sake that's funky, earthy, and woody. with rich nutty notes. Tamagawa's Yamahai evoked the flavor of Spanish sherry, not at all what I imagined sake could taste like.

As Soma poured my Yamahai Genshu, she helped herself to one, too. Lifting the glass, she closed her eyes, sipped, and then opened her eyes with a smile. "You can drink this all day," she said. King interjected: "You can't. You have soba to make."

Hannyatou feels less like a sake bar and more like a showroom for one of Seattle's hardest working chefs. I'll drink a sake to that.

## Top Picks

#### **THURS JUNE 6**

## Cafe Campagne's 15th Annual **Drink Pink**

Tucked away in Post Alley, legendary bistro Cafe Campagne has been serving up French comfort food since 1994. And for 15 years running, they've celebrated their annual Drink Pink event in said alley with a variety of seasonal rosé, so you can guzzle pink wine on their picturesque patio and pretend you're in Provence. They'll have rosé by the glass and the bottle, as well as food available for purchase. (Cafe Campagne, 4:30–10:30 pm.) JULIANNE BELL

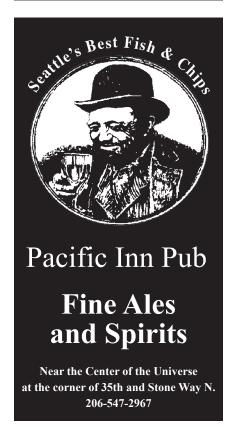
## Campar-ty Tiki Night

Last spring, Eric and Sophie Banh of Ba Bar and Monsoon relaunched their Vietnamese steak house as Central Smoke, a new concept with a focus on smoked meats and smoke-infused cocktails. So











## THINGS $\overline{TO}$ DO $\rightarrow$ Food & Drink



naturally, as they break out the classic tiki drinks for summer as part of a partnership with Campari, they're going to take full advantage of their custom-built 8,000-pound smoker and smoke a whole pig. They also promise the following: fires and tiki torches on the patio, slushies, boozy house-made sodas, pineapple Peychaud's shots, ribs, frilly cocktail umbrellas of all sizes, and "an appropriate amount of drinks set on fire." (Central Smoke, 4–11 pm.) JULIANNE BELL

#### **FRI JUNE 7**

## **National Doughnut Day**

National Doughnut Day was originally created to honor the Salvation Army volunteers who distributed doughnuts to soldiers during World War I. You can get your fill of glazed goods and yeasted treats at Top Pot's National Doughnut Day, where you will find the biggest doughnut eating contest in the city. The day will also feature prizes, giveaways, and a performance by local family music band Recess Monkey at the chain's Fifth Avenue cafe location. (Top Pot Doughnuts, 6 am-7 pm.) JULIANNE BELL

#### **JUNE 14-16**

### **14th Annual Washington Brewers Festival**

Maximizers who thrive when presented with a dizzying array of choices should enjoy this festival from the Washington Beer Commission, which will offer 500 beers from 110 Washington brewers. Besides beer, there's also a specialty root-beer garden for designated drivers and the under-21 crowd to enjoy, plus food vendors, a kids' playground, and live music and entertainment all weekend. (Marymoor Park, Redmond, \$5-\$75.) JULIANNE BELL

#### **SUN JUNE 16**

## Atlas Obscura Society: An Insect Feast with the Bug Chef

Atlas Obscura will host a decidedly entomological dinner at beloved dive Darrell's Tayern, where local "insect evangelist" David George Gordon (who

is also known as the "Bug Chef" and authored The Eat-A-Bug Cookbook) will prepare a feast using insects such as farm-raised mealworms, grasshoppers, and seasoned crickets. Belly up to the bar for some insect-based cocktails before witnessing a cooking demonstration from Gordon and clips from Ian Toews's documentary Bugs on the Menu and snacking on finger foods like insect-topped pizza. (Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline, 4 pm, \$39.) JULIANNE BELL

StrangerThingsToDo.com

## New Bars & Restaurants

Sazon Kitchen Mexican-Mediterranean breakfast and brunch

#### CAPITOL HILL Chuan on Capitol

Sichuan Chinese dry pot restaurant 601 E Pike St, Suite 100

### DOWNTOWN

Joe Chocolate Co. Chocolate factory and 1606 Pike Place

#### MAGNOLIA

**Dirty Couch Brewing** Brewery specializing in mixed-fermented sours 2715 W Fort St

#### UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

**Donut Factory** Popular doughnut shop 4336 Roosevelt Way NE,

#### WEST SEATTLE

II Nido

Italian restaurant from II Corvo chef Mike Easton 2717 61st Ave SW

## Short List

All You Can Eat Crawfish and Shrimp Crawfish King, Thurs June 13, 12–10 pm, \$25-\$35

#### **Brewshed Beer Fest** Hale's Palladium, Sat June 8, \$30-\$35

Marination 10th Anniversary Party! Super Six, Wed June 19, 5-9 pm, \$10

#### Molly Moon's Summer Flavor Tasting

Palace Ballroom Tues June 18, 5:30-7 pm, \$35

#### Negroni Bar Pop-Up with Copperworks Distillery

Brimmer & Heeltan Thurs June 6, 6-10 pm

#### Rosé Showcase Downtown Spirits

Sat June 8, 1-3 pm, \$10 Sodo Crawl

#### Westland Distillery, Fri June 14, 4-7 pm, free

## Early Warnings

AUTHOR TALK: EVERY DAY IS SATURDAY BY SARAH COPELAND Book Larder, Thurs June 20, 6:30 pm, free











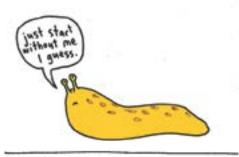


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Cure that crapulence with a greasy breakfast and a nap.

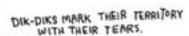


IT TAKES A BANANA SLUG 24 HOURS TO GET SOMEWHERE A BLOCK AWAY.



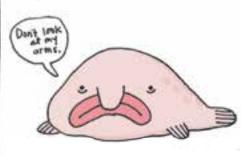
BIRDS THAT RUN INTO WINDOWS ARE OFTEN ATTACKING THEIR REFLECTION.







BLOBFISH HAVE NO MUSCLES.





## $oldsymbol{Quiet\ Change}$ by Brendan emmett Quigley

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#### ACROSS

- Pork sandwich from the
- Ne plus \_\_\_\_
- 11. "A date which will live in infamy" speaker, briefly
- 14. Amorous text
- 15. It means nothing to the Pope
- 16. Rustic field
- 17. Jimmy Garoppolo, for short
- 18. Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally and Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge, e.g.
- 21. Daughter of Mnemosyne
- 23. Fach
- 24. James Holzhauer, famously
- 28. Plou
- 29. Lobe's home
- 30. "Chernobyl" channel
- 33 huco
- 36. Better than fine 38. "Au contraire, mon frere"
- 40. Ceiling attachment
- 41. Dispensaru unit
- 42. Thought up 44. Ren Faire beverage
- 45. Rocku ridge
- 46. Primus guitarist LaLonde 47. Spock crewmate
- 50. Totally unacceptable

- 56 "Didn't catch that"
- 58. Flooded
- 59. Totally chill
- 60. Bribe, and a hint to certain letters in the first words of the theme answers
- 63. Mediterranean tourist destination
- 65. Half-and-half?
- 66. Move obliquely
- 67. Judge's prop
- 68. Green-lights
- 69. Read the riot act
- 70. Experiment with mushrooms?

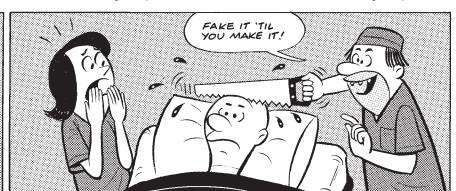
#### DOWN

- 1. Singer Nicki
- 2. Environment 3. Reach, as a total
- 4. "\_\_\_seen the future"
- 5. News room
- 6. Like a bed sty
- 7. Full of fluff
- 8. Led Zeppelin song with a
- 9. Edge
- 10. Acapulco greeting
- 11. Dumb way to call
- 12. Art \_\_\_\_
- 13. Laryngitis tone
- Second Indochina War theater, for short

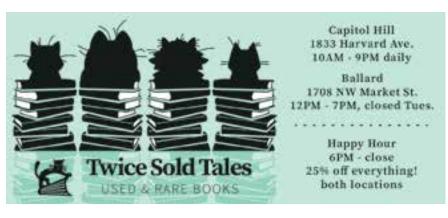
- 22. Some Xing crossers 25. Fork part
- 26. Western omelet meat 27. Florentine flower
- 31. \_\_\_\_Raton
- 32. Had too much, briefly
- 33. Passing words
- 34. It's big in Japan
- 35. Settings in some science fiction
- 36. Allowance provider
- 37. Make a mess of
- 39. Greasy
- 40. Abba ballad with a male's
- 43. New beginning?
- 47. Stuck around
- 48. "I'm thinking" sounds
- 49. University of Bethlehem
- 51. Biblical verb ending
- 52. Fixate (on)
- 53. Still with us
- 54. Does nothing 55. Hold in high regard
- 56. "This is THE BEST!"
- 57. Studmuffin
- 61. Ed's. pile
- 62. Texter's letters that phonetically show sudden under-standing
- 64. Cricket equipment

Find the solution at ranger.com/puzzlesolution

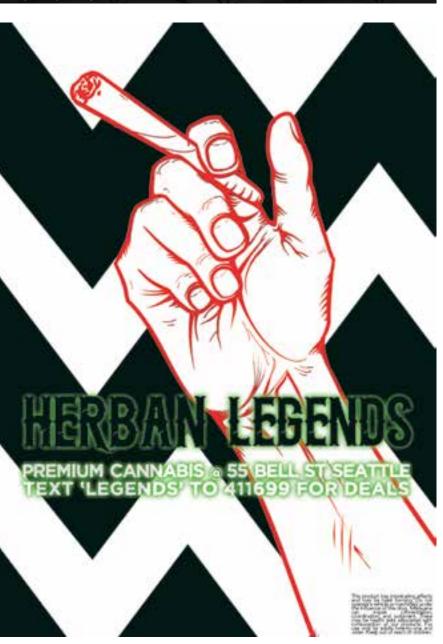


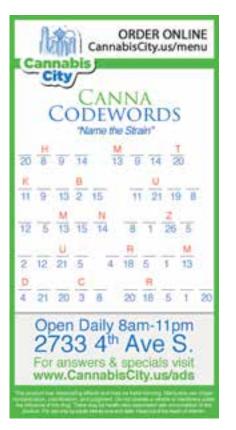




















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